# Daily Report

# Near East & South Asia

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## Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-89-016 26 January 1989

CONTENTS


**MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW**

26 January Middle East and South Asia Review ..... 1

**INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**

**Palestinian Affairs**

PLO Official Denies U.S. Demands on 'Terrorists' *[AFP]* ..... 2
U.S. Urged 'Not To Interfere' in PLO Affairs *[Baghdad Voice of the PLO]* ..... 2
Palestine UN Delegation Rejects U.S. Proposal *[Baghdad Voice of the PLO]* ..... 2
PLO Studying USSR Proposal on Peace Conference *[Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD 23 Jan]* ..... 2
Frayj Denies Receiving Threats from 'Arafat *[Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD 23 Jan]* ..... 3
Salah Khalaf Making 'Undeclared' Visit to France *[WAKH]* ..... 3
Officials Expect 'Military Blow' to Lebanon *[WAKH]* ..... 3
AL-SAFIR Interviews PFLP's Habash *[Beirut 23 Jan]* ..... 4

**OPEC Affairs**

Saudi Source Denies Quota Violation Report *[SPA]* ..... 10

**ARAB AFRICA**

**Algeria**

Bendjedid Addresses Seminar on Economy *[Algiers Radio]* ..... 12
Morocco's Filali Comments on Talks in Algiers *[Algiers Radio]* ..... 13

**Egypt**

MENA: Ties With Syria To Be Resumed 'Soon' ..... 13
Jordan's King Husayn Pays 1-Day Visit to Cairo ..... 13
Talks With Mubarak *[Cairo Radio]* ..... 13
Discusses Arab Developments *[MENA]* ..... 14
Departs Cairo *[MENA]* ..... 14
UN Envoys Deliver Message to 'Abd al-Majid *[MENA]* ..... 14
IMF Delegation Arrives in Cairo for Talks *[MENA]* ..... 14
President Mubarak Gives Speech on Police Day *[Cairo Radio]* ..... 14
Minister Zaki Badr on Extremism, Narcotics *[MENA]* ..... 19
Mubarak Holds Meeting With Cabinet Ministers *[MENA]* ..... 19
Holds 2d Meeting With Officials *[MENA]* ..... 19
Mubarak Rules Out Changes to Constitution *[MENA]* ..... 19
Mubarak Meets With NDP Committees *[Cairo Radio]* ..... 20
Lawyers Association To Hold Elections *[MENA]* ..... 20
Ministry Aide Denies Recall of Security Troops *[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 19 Jan]* ..... 20

**Libya**

Al-Qadhdhafi To Visit Several Arab States *[Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' 26 Jan]* ..... 20
Industrial Agreement Signed With Tunisia *[JANA]* ..... 20

**Morocco**

Bendjedid Visit, Maghreb Summit Date Changed *[MAP]* ..... 20

### Sudan

Prime Minister Postpones Visit to Egypt *[MENA]* ..... 21
Official, Libyan Envoy Discuss U.S. 'Threats' *[Omdurman Radio]* ..... 21
Bahr al-Ghazal Governor Says Situation 'Stable' *[Omdurman Radio]* ..... 21
Commissioner Cited on Khartoum Demonstrations *[Jeddah 'UKAZ 19 Jan]* ..... 21
Al-Turabi Cited on Domestic, Regional Issues *[Jeddah 'UKAZ 14 Jan]* ..... 21
SPLA Official on Al-Mahdi Peace Proposals *[Radio SPLA]* ..... 22
Former Government Officials Ordered Released *[SUNA]* ..... 22

### Tunisia

Ben Ali Receives Maghreb Delegations *[Tunis Radio]* ..... 22
Hedi Baccouche Receives Libya's Al-Humaydi *[JANA]* ..... 23

## ARABIAN PENINSULA

### Kuwait

Bush Appointments Cause 'Concern' Among Arabs *[KUNA]* ..... 24

### PDRY

'High-Level' Delegation Visits CSSR ..... 25
Al-Bid Heads Delegation *[Aden Radio]* ..... 25
Gives Dinner Speech *[Bratislava PRAVDA 18 Jan]* ..... 25
Signs Joint Communique, Returns *[Aden Radio]* ..... 28

## IRAQ

KUNA on Release of Sick, Wounded Iranians ..... 30
Saddam Husayn Returns Home From YAR Visit *[INA]* ..... 30
Ramadan Leaves for Italy on Official Visit *[INA]* ..... 30
Dailies Renew Readiness To Resume Peace Talks *[INA]* ..... 30
Paper Denies Flexibility on Shatt al-'Arab *[INA]* ..... 31
AL-JUMHURIYAH Cited on Iran's 'New Tone' *[INA]* ..... 31

## ISRAEL

Shamir Denies Knowledge of Superpower Peace Plan *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 26 Jan]* ..... 32
Shamir Explains Policy on Mideast Talks *[London TV]* ..... 32
Tabah Talks 'Deadlocked' on Continuation Formula *[Jerusalem Radio]* ..... 33
Meeting Ends 'Deadlock' *[Tel Aviv Radio]* ..... 33
Shamir: Bush Spoke 'Words of Friendship' *[HA'ARETZ 26 Jan]* ..... 34
Arab States' Non-Conventional Weapons Noted *[Jerusalem Radio]* ..... 34
Agricultural Cooperation With Greece Severed *[Jerusalem Radio]* ..... 34
Knowledge of Indian Visa Office Denied *[Jerusalem Radio]* ..... 34
Weizman Urges Shamir, Arens To Talk to PLO *[Jerusalem Radio]* ..... 34
'Outside Elements' Responsible for Plan Rejection *[Jerusalem Radio]* ..... 35
Al-Husayni Scheduled for Release Next Week *[Tel Aviv Radio]* ..... 36
Four Editors Convicted of DFLP Membership *[Tel Aviv Radio]* ..... 36
Jewish Settlement Leaders End Hunger Strike *[Jerusalem Radio]* ..... 36
Further on Incidents, Casualties in Territories ..... 36
Riots in East Jerusalem *[Jerusalem Radio]* ..... 36
5 Wounded in Gaza Strip *[Jerusalem Radio]* ..... 37
1 Killed by IDF Gunfire *[Jerusalem Radio]* ..... 37
House Demolished in Tulkarm *[Jerusalem Radio]* ..... 37
Houses Demolished in 'Aqraba *[Tel Aviv Radio]* ..... 37
Jordan Reportedly Treating Palestinians 'Cruelly' *[Jerusalem Radio]* ..... 37
Unemployment Rises 9.4 Percent in Dec *[THE JERUSALEM POST 20 Jan]* ..... 37

## JORDAN

AL-DUSTUR Interviews Foreign Minister *[22 Jan]* ..... 38

## LEBANON

AL-SHIRA' on Securing Hostages' Release *[23 Jan]* ..... 41
Irish Envoy Heads for Beirut on Hostage Mission *[VOL]* ..... 41
Diplomats Await Release *[IRNA]* ..... 41
UK Embassy on 'Alert' *[Beirut Radio]* ..... 41
Fadlallah Denies Hizballah Link To Hostages *[VOL]* ..... 41
Hizballah Reportedly Moves Hostage to Ba'labakk *[RFL]* ..... 41
Damascus Talks Focus on Col Higgins' Release *[RFL]* ..... 42
Al-Husayn Leaves for Arab League Meetings in Tunis *[RFL]* ..... 42
Al-Huss Leaves for Talks *[Beirut Radio]* ..... 42
Action by Arab League Seen as 'Positive Sign' *[RFL]* ..... 42
Shamir Inspects South; Visits Lahd in Marj 'Uyun *[VOL]* ..... 42
Army Units Warned on Crossing Point Barricades *[VOL]* ..... 42
Army Roadblock on Beirut Green Line Removed *[VOL]* ..... 43
3 SLA Men Killed, 3 Injured in Mine Explosion *[VOL]* ..... 43
More on Incident Involving UNIFIL Spokesman *[VOL]* ..... 43
Amal-Hizballah Fighting Erupts Despite Cease-Fire *[VOL]* ..... 43
Clashes in Iqlim al-Tuffah *[RFL]* ..... 43
RFL Reports Suburb Clashes ..... 43
Fatah Accuses Muragha Group of Assassination *[RFL]* ..... 43

## SYRIA

More on Alleged Mosad Involvement in Pan Am Blast *[Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD 24 Jan]* ..... 44
Cypriot Progressive Party Delegation Arrives *[Damascus Radio]* ..... 44
Meets Ba'th Party Delegation *[Damascus Radio]* ..... 44
Meets With Al-Shar' *[Damascus TV]* ..... 45
Confers With Al-Asad *[Damascus Radio]* ..... 45
Policies of Bush Administration Viewed *[Damascus Radio]* ..... 45

## SOUTH ASIA

### Afghanistan

Mujahidin Reportedly Advancing on Jalalabad *[Islamabad Radio]* ..... 46
Fighting Along Salang Highway Described *[BAKHTAR]* ..... 46
Najibullah Invites Perez de Cuellar To Visit *[Kabul Radio]* ..... 46
Iran-Based Mujahidin Reject Proposed Shura *[IRNA]* ..... 46
Moderates Reject Fundamentalist-Led Government *[AFP]* ..... 47
Armed Forces Combat Operations Detailed ..... 47
Armed Incidents 18 Jan *[Kabul Radio]* ..... 47
212 Rebels Killed 19 Jan *[BAKHTAR]* ..... 48
2 Pakistani Helicopters Downed *[Kabul Radio]* ..... 48
Armed Operations Roundup *[Kabul Radio]* ..... 49
Food Convoys Arrive in Kabul After Snow Delay *[Kabul Radio]* ..... 49
Kabul To Import Grain from USSR, Mongolia *[Kabul Radio]* ..... 49
Najibullah Hails Konduz People's War Efforts *[Kabul Radio]* ..... 50
Commentary Urges Political Solution, Dialogue *[BAKHTAR]* ..... 50
Iran-Based Mujahidin Leader Khalili Interviewed *[Tehran TV]* ..... 51

### Bangladesh

Public Meetings Banned Prior to Elections *[Dhaka Radio]* ..... 54
Nationalist Party Calls for 8-Hour Strike *[AFP]* ..... 54
Ershad Congratulates Bush on Assuming Presidency *[Dhaka Radio]* ..... 54
Ershad Approves National Narcotics Board *[Dhaka Radio]* ..... 54
Khaleda Zia Reelected as Party Chairman *[Dhaka Radio]* ..... 54

**India**

'No Objection' to Pakistani Commonwealth Reentry *[Delhi Radio]* ..... 55
Paper Criticizes U.S. Downing of Libyan Planes *[THE HINDUSTAN TIMES 6 Jan]* ..... 55
Commentary Hails Visit of U.S. Congressman *[Delhi International]* ..... 55
SRV's Nguyen Van Linh Continues Visit ..... 56
Holds Talks With Gandhi 25 Jan *[Hanoi Radio]* ..... 56
Visits Bombay With Gandhi *[Hanoi VNA]* ..... 56
Receives Rao, Others *[Hanoi VNA]* ..... 57
Gandhi Speaks at Banquet *[Delhi Radio]* ..... 57
Vietnam To Receive 10 Crore Rupees Credit *[Delhi Radio]* ..... 57
Agreement Signed *[Delhi Radio]* ..... 57
USSR Offers Joint Research on Antarctica *[Delhi Radio]* ..... 57
Congress-I Legislators Stage Strike in Residence *[Delhi Radio]* ..... 57
Navy To Display Nuclear Submarine Feb 15 *[AFP]* ..... 58

**Iran**

Egyptian Trade Delegation Reportedly To Visit *[IRNA]* ..... 58
Velayati Announces Hizballah-Amal Cease-Fire *[Tehran TV]* ..... 58
Eliasson Continues Consultations on UN 598 ..... 59
Meets Velayati, Holds Interview *[Tehran TV]* ..... 59
Hold Talks With Musavi *[IRNA]* ..... 59
Editorial Claims UN 598 Remains 'Unfulfilled' *[IRNA]* ..... 60
Afghan Mujahidin's Hikmatyar Arrives For Talks *[IRNA]* ..... 61
Majlis Seeks Death for Banker Guilty of Fraud *[IRNA]* ..... 61
Off-Shore Oil Fields Yielding 200,000 BPD *[IRNA]* ..... 62
Musavi Interviewed on Trips to Poland, Italy *[Tehran Radio]* ..... 62
Musavi Comments on Anti-Narcotics Law, Campaign *[Tehran Radio]* ..... 63
Khamene'i, Musavi Brief Cabinet Meeting *[IRNA]* ..... 63
Montazeri Sends Letter to Lebanese Scholars *[Tehran Radio]* ..... 64
Khamene'i on Venezuelan Official's Visit, OPEC *[Tehran Radio]* ..... 64
Daily Comments on Khomeyni Letter to Gorbachev *[IRNA]* ..... 65
Larijani on Foreign Policy, Reconstruction *[RESALAT 25 Dec]* ..... 66
Defense Minister in Gabon for Arms Exhibit *[Tehran Radio]* ..... 70
Naval Vessels To Visit African, Asian Ports *[IRNA]* ..... 70
Iran To Set Up Shipping Line With Qatar *[IRNA]* ..... 70
IRGC Minister Arrives in Islamabad for Talks *[IRNA]* ..... 71
Industries Minister Leaves for Talks in GDR *[IRNA]* ..... 71
Office of Special Investigations Formed *[Tehran Radio]* ..... 71
High-Level Meeting Adopts Decision on Executions *[Iran's Flag of Freedom Radio]* ..... 71

**Pakistan**

Kabul Protests on Border Violations Dismissed *[Islamabad Radio]* ..... 71
Over 164 Pakistanis Die in Afghan Attacks *[AFP]* ..... 72
Afghan 'Violations' Detailed *[Islamabad Radio]* ..... 72
Commentary Welcomes Bush Inaugural Remarks *[Islamabad Radio]* ..... 72
Discussion on Restoring 1973 Constitution Urged *[Islamabad Radio]* ..... 73

**Sri Lanka**

JVP Suspected of Killing 2 Election Candidates *[AFP]* ..... 73
38 Killed in Increased Political Violence *[AFP]* ..... 74
SAARC Observers Examine Presidential Election *[LANKAPUVATH]* ..... 74

## 26 January Middle East and South Asia Review

LD2601130489 [Editorial Report]

### Lebanon

Clashes resumed in Iqlim al-Tuffah between the Amal Movement and Hizballah despite the cease-fire agreement in Damascus, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. Both sides blamed each other for the renewal of hostilities. Amal stated that three people were wounded by fire from Hizballah positions.

### Israel

One Arab was killed and three wounded when IDF soldiers fired at a group of Palestinians who failed to obey an order to halt, Jerusalem radio reported. Six other Palestinians were arrested in the incident, which occurred near Qalqilyah.

Responding to a British television report that the United States and USSR have agreed on a secret plan to convene an international conference on the Middle East in 1990, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's media adviser "flatly denied" that Israel has any knowledge of such a plan, YEDI'OT AHARONOT reported.

On the Tabah issue, IDF radio reported that representatives of Israel, Egypt, and the United States held a tripartite meeting 26 January, ending the deadlock that had halted negotiations. Three working groups were established to discuss the outstanding issues.

### PLO Affairs

At a news conference in Muscat following his talks with Omani Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat stressed the need to convene an Arab summit to "enhance the success" scored by Palestinian diplomacy, WAKH reported. On 'Arafat's talks with Qabus, the Kuwaiti paper AL-SIYASAH stated that the PLO wants Oman to help persuade the United States to trust 'Arafat and to speed up the dialogue with the PLO.

'Arafat has declined an invitation from the Arab-American Antidiscrimination Committee to visit the United States and has affirmed that he will only visit Washington in response to an official invitation from the U.S. Administration, according to a PLO source cited by Kuwait's AL-WATAN.

Responding to recent reports that the United States has urged the PLO to dismantle Force 17 and to expel known terrorists, PLO official Mahmud 'Abbas stressed that nothing relating to PLO leaders or institutions was discussed during the one official meeting with U.S. representatives, AFP reported.

A Sanaa Voice of Palestine radio commentary said the U.S.-PLO dialogue should be a prelude to "radical steps" toward a just, comprehensive solution that will restore the "legitimate" rights of the Palestinian people through an international conference.

### Egypt: Relations with Jordan, Syria

President Husni Mubarak began talks in Cairo with King Husayn of Jordan, Cairo radio reported.

"Arab sources" in Damascus cited by the Saudi newspaper AL-JAZIRAH predicted that Egyptian-Syrian relations will be resumed "soon," MENA reported.

### Saudi Arabia

A "responsible source" at the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources denied reports that the Kingdom is violating the OPEC agreement on quotas, SPA reported.

### Afghanistan

**Food/Security Situation**—The Afghan Government and the USSR are continuing to supply food and fuel by road and air in order to "scuttle" the economic blockade, TASS reported, citing Soviet Foreign Ministry Spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov. He also affirmed that the Soviet troops will be withdrawn by 15 February.

Soviet bombers have "intensified" attacks on the Jalalabad region killing nearly 20 people, according to Islamabad radio. In Kabul, Qandahar, and other provinces, 264 "extremists" were killed in recent military operations, Kabul radio reported.

President Najibullah has asked UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar to visit Afghanistan "and other related countries" to discuss the region's problems, Kabul radio reported.

**Mujahidin Differences**—Mujahidin leader Sebghatullah Mojadeddi reportedly said that the three "moderate" factions in the Peshawar-based alliance will "not accept a fundamentalist-led government even if that was decided by a shura," according to resistance sources cited by AFP.

Meanwhile, Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, representing the seven-party alliance, arrived in Tehran for talks with the Iran-based group, IRNA reported.

## Palestinian Affairs

### PLO Official Denies U.S. Demands on 'Terrorists'

*NC2501120289 Paris AFP in English 1139 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Jan 25 (AFP)—A senior PLO official has denied reports that the United States was urging the Palestinian Liberation Organisation to expel members from its ranks that Washington has dubbed "terrorists." Mahmud 'Abbas, also known as Abu Mazin, a member of the PLO's Executive Committee, also said that the U.S.-PLO talks launched last month would resume in the next few days.

"So far we have had only one meeting with the Americans, with only one topic on the agenda, terrorism," he said.

"But we did not discuss anything related to Palestinian leaders or institutions," Abu Mazin added in response to a question fielded during a lecture here Tuesday night.

Recent Gulf press reports said the United States had asked the PLO to dismantle its elite military Force 17 and expel PLO members considered by Washington as "terrorists" such as Muhammad 'Abbas.

Mr 'Abbas claimed responsibility for the hijacking in 1985 of the Italian cruise liner Achille Lauro in which an American Jew was killed.

"The Americans may desire to discuss this issue in the future," the PLO official added.

Abu Mazin took part December 10 in the U.S.-PLO talks in Tunis that ended Washington's 13-year ban on contacts with the group. The meeting came after PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat publicly announced his recognition of Israel and renounced terrorism.

At the next meeting, the PLO planned to ask the United States to pressure Israel to stop repressive measures in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, Abu Mazin said.

"We will ask them to define their policy on Palestinian rights and urge them for some sort of balance in their stand," he said in the lecture organised by the United Arab Emirates Foreign Ministry.

He said the PLO will seek a similar right of expression inside the United States as that granted to Israel.

Elsewhere, Abu Mazin said that the PLO sought a joint meeting with Egypt, Syria, Jordan and Lebanon (which share common borders with Israel) to coordinate the stands of the main Arab parties in the conflict with the Jewish state.

### U.S. Urged 'Not To Interfere' in PLO Affairs

*JN2401210789 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1930 GMT 24 Jan 89*

[Text] The PLO called on the administration of U.S. President George Bush not to interfere in affairs that concern the will of the Palestinian people, such as Palestinian-Jordanian affairs. U.S. President George Bush said after assuming his post that the best solution to the Palestinian cause is the establishment of a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation because the United States believes that the formation of an independent Palestinian state is a factor that affects the stability of peace in the Middle East.

In a statement to KUNA, PLO Executive Committee member 'Abdallah Hurani said: The Palestinian people alone have the right to decide the form of relationship between the Palestinian state and the Arab brothers. He added that the PLO's decision for which it is struggling and the Palestinians' decision raised by their uprising now is independence. Brother 'Abdallah Hurani affirmed that the PLO adheres to the objective of establishing an independent state and establishing a confederation with Jordan in accordance with the voluntary and free option.

On the other hand, brother 'Abdallah Hurani denied the United States had proposed to the PLO that it play a role in efforts to achieve peace in the Middle East if it removes certain persons from its ranks and dissolves one of its military units. Brother Hurani said the PLO had not received such an offer and if it did it would reject such conditions.

### Palestine UN Delegation Rejects U.S. Proposal

*JN2401210889 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1930 GMT 24 Jan 89*

[Text] Palestine's delegation at the United Nations last night rejected an American proposal calling on the UN Security Council to call for stopping the popular Palestinian uprising and the Israeli repressive measures against it.

The UN Security Council was supposed to issue a statement last Friday in the name of the member states in which it holds the Israeli occupation authorities responsible for the deteriorating situation. However, the United States objected to the issuance of such a statement.

### PLO Studying USSR Proposal on Peace Conference

*JN2401215089 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 23 Jan 89 p 1*

[Text] AL-ITTIHAD has learned that Moscow officially asked the PLO its opinion on the convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East under the chairmanship of the two superpowers, the Soviet Union and the United States.

Informed diplomatic sources in Tunis disclosed to AL-ITTIHAD that Vladimir Polyakov, head of the Middle East Department at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, raised this idea once again to Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat and the Palestinian leaders he met in Tunis last week. The sources stressed that the PLO assigned a committee headed by Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas, "Abu Mazin," the task of studying the idea before presenting it to an Executive Committee meeting to be held next week in Tunis or Baghdad.

**Frayj Denies Receiving Threats from 'Arafat**
*JN2401204789 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 23 Jan 89*

[Excerpt] London—AL-ITTIHAD—French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas yesterday evening met with a number of Palestinian leaders in the occupied territories. They are: Mustafa al-Natshah, the sacked mayor of Hebron; Radwan Abu 'Ayyash, president of the Arab Journalist Association in the occupied territories; Dr Sari Nusaybah, a professor at Bethlehem University; Dr Sa'ib 'Urayqat, a professor at Al-Najah University; lawyer Raja Shihadah; and Ilyas Frayj, mayor of Bethlehem.

Following the meeting, Frayj stated to AL-ITTIHAD that he told Dumas that PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat had never threatened him and that he is committed to everything presented by the PLO, the only decision-maker regarding the Palestinian question and the peaceful solution.

The leaders informed Dumas of their absolute rejection of the plan proposed by Israeli war minister Rabin.

In an exclusive statement to AL-ITTIHAD, the French foreign minister said the Palestinian figures told him that receiving 'Arafat in France would be a great French gift to the Palestinian people.

In another statement to AL-ITTIHAD, Mustafa al-Natshah said the French minister promised the Palestinian figures that France would continue its efforts within the EC to revive the Middle East peace process. [passage omitted]

**Salah Khalaf Making 'Undeclared' Visit to France**
*JN2501074089 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0600 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 25 Jan (WAKH)—Press reports here today said that Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf, Abu Iyad, is currently on an undeclared visit to France.

The newspaper AL-ITTIHAD, issued in Abu Dhabi, quoted informed French sources in Paris as saying the visit is within the framework of French-Palestinian contacts to arrange a meeting between French President Francois Mitterrand and Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat, which is expected to be held in March.

The sources stressed that a special meeting will be held between the Palestinian leader and French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas in Madrid next Friday as part of these contacts. The sources pointed out that Abu Iyad's talks with the French officials include security issues of interest to both sides.

**Officials Expect 'Military Blow' to Lebanon**
*JN2501092589 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0815 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 25 Jan (WAKH)—Two Palestinian officials have called for convening an Arab summit to adopt a unified stand toward not only the Palestine question, but toward all Arab issues.

PLO Executive Committee members Mahmud 'Abbas and 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad expected that the Zionist enemy would deal a military blow to the Palestinian positions in Lebanon with the objective of destroying the Palestinian political successes and affecting the uprising.

In a lecture he gave in Abu Dhabi last night, Mahmud 'Abbas attributed the recent Palestinian political action to three major factors. These factors are the popular Palestinian uprising, the Jordanian decision disengaging ties with the West Bank, and the international detente.

Both Palestinian officials agreed that the Palestinian uprising will continue until after the convening of the international conference and until the Palestinian people regain their full rights and that the Palestinian leadership is in agreement on the escalation of the uprising and that it rejects calls for stopping it for a limited period as an expression of the Palestinians' good intentions, because this would end the uprising forever.

Mahmud 'Abbas said the uprising has instilled the Palestine question into the Israeli mind and that it has caused a split in the Zionist society. He added that in light of this, some Israelis are now calling for withdrawal from the occupied territories and some others call for deporting the Palestinians. He said the main reason behind this difference is the uprising.

'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad, ALF secretary general and PLO Executive Committee member, said the recent Palestinian meetings focused on three major issues: the uprising, the formation of the provisional government, and the PLO's political approaches.

In a statement to the newspaper AL-BAYAN published in Dubayy today, he said that any attempt to undermine or stop the uprising will fail. He pointed out that the Palestinian leadership did not reach an agreement on the provisional government for several reasons, the most important of which is the nature of the tasks of this government which carries a political meaning, because the legal committee has not completed its report in this regard,

and due to the presence of several trends in the Palestinian revolution's factions. He pointed out that meetings in this regard will take place in February at the most.

Regarding the Palestinian-European contacts, the Palestinian official said the PLO believes that West Europe is now getting closer to understanding the Palestinian stand and to responding to the Palestinians' aspirations.

He said that the recent Palestinian-Israeli dialogue in Paris, in which European parliamentarians participated, has revealed that there is an important European understanding of Palestinian rights. He said that new Palestinian-European meetings will be held in the near future and that some European states will declare unilateral stands toward Palestine after the coming European ministerial meeting.

The Palestinian official stressed that Britain has also begun heading toward supporting the legitimate Palestinian demands.

## AL-SAFIR Interviews PFLP's Habash

*NC2401112089 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 23 Jan 89 p 8*

[Interview with PFLP leader Dr George Habash by AL-SAFIR reporter Muna Sukkariyah in Damascus—date not given]

[Excerpts] [Sukkariyah] At the beginning of our interview, could you assess the Palestinian political orientation from the Algiers declaration of the Palestinian state up till now?

[Habash] Certainly. We in the PFLP, as well as all the resistance factions which act within the framework of the PLO, look upon the declaration of the Palestinian state as such as a victory for the uprising. In other words, when the uprising raised the slogan of freedom and independence and used this slogan for a whole year, the PLO had to declare the Palestinian state outside the occupied territories. However, it is deeply regrettable that this declaration coincided with the PNC's recognition of Resolution 242 by the majority, not by consensus.

You all know that the PFLP has refused to recognize this resolution. The Front believed that the PNC's recognition of this decision, even by the majority, was a weak point in the PNC's achievements. However, we regarded the PNC decisions as a whole as positive because the issue of the Palestinian state at this specific political phase clashes with the imperialist and Zionist schemes against the Palestinian cause.

[Sukkariyah] I would like to interrupt you with a question. You said "deeply regrettable" when you spoke of Resolution 242. You also said that except for this step, the achievements were positive. On several occasions you said "regrettable," and your Front issued statements rejecting certain points while approving a certain stand in general. By doing this, are you providing a cover for the PLO stand, specifically for 'Arafat's stands?

[Habash] In the past, the Popular Front generally remained within the framework of the PNC and the PLO Central Committee whenever we disagreed with the executive leadership of the PLO on a decisive point like Resolution 242. However, we never participate in the Executive Committee. In view of the seriousness involved in accepting Resolution 242, it would have been natural for us to take that stand and refrain from taking part in the Executive Committee, if it were not for the uprising.

During the PNC session, I was very clear. I said: If it were not for the uprising, our natural stand would have been not to participate in the Executive Committee. However, in view of the great and glorious uprising, we could not present a gift to Shamir, Rabin, and the Zionist entity by embarking on a step which would have shaken our national unity at this critical and sensitive stage in the Palestinian national struggle. I mean the uprising. [Sukkariyah] You are "torn between two things" then: You will not resort to dissidence to protect national unity and you will remain part of the PLO, despite your dissatisfaction with its political approach.

[Habash] We are dissatisfied with the official orientation of the PLO leadership.

[Sukkariyah] But the whole cannot be divided into parts. Does this mean that you approve all the Algiers conference resolutions?

[Habash] No. I did not agree with all the Algiers resolutions.

[Sukkaryah] But your attending means you agree.

[Habash] No, my comrade. We have clearly objected to the paragraph on Resolution 242. We had two options: either to leave the Executive Committee, causing resultant confusion and dissention in the uprising, or to remain within the framework of national unity and note our objection to that paragraph. In other words, we had to struggle within the framework of the PLO to correct its political orientation and to rely on the continuous uprising to impose such a correction on the political orientation.

[Sukkariyah] What influence does the opposition have on the PLO as the PLO leadership is maintaining its selected political course? Where is George Habash as a person and what effect does he have on the stands to which he objects?

[Habash] There is no difference between George Habash as a person and as PFLP secretary general.

[Sukkariyah] I do not mean to establish a difference.

[Habash] The stones which bring us together now and the stones being thrown by our comrade and brothers in "Fatah" in the occupied territories represent a great point of unity. Overlooking this issue would make us fall apart. The stone and the state, which are two major points of unity, are the only things which bring us together with Yasir 'Arafat's policy, the policy of free concessions which has reached the point of recognition [of Israel].

[Sukkariyah] What you are saying about the policy of free concessions does not befit a stonethrower. Free concessions will not serve the stonethrower. A time may come when the hand of the stonethrower will be broken.

[Habash] I have a two-part answer: First, those who adopt the policy of free concessions will find out that this policy will not lead them anywhere. Hence, we bet that in a year or a few months, this policy's followers will realize that it is not the correct course for establishing the Palestinian state. The second part is wagering on the masses in the occupied territories and on their eventual success, which I hope will come very soon, to end this harmful policy, which is not acceptable to our Palestinian and Arab masses alike.

We are wagering on the time factor. We hope that within a year, for instance, this policy will fail and the role played by our masses in the occupied territories will grow.

[Sukkariyah] Do you expect the uprising to continue in its present form?

[Habash] We are working to maintain the continuity of the uprising, to escalate it, establish its roots, and extend it. We are also working to make this uprising leave its impact on Palestinians outside the occupied territories and in the Arab arena. [Sukkariyah] You talk about counting on the time factor to ensure that the concessions policy will fail. Is there anything apart from this, given that those who are propounding this policy are doing so in an atmosphere of international detente, which might consitute a pressing or encouraging factor for this policy?

[Habash] First, we are not counting on the time factor alone. We are counting on the time factor on the one hand and on our struggle and the struggle of our masses in accordance with a national progressive political line on the other. Now that this point is clear, I can say that when the concessions policy fails I expect its proponents to go back on it; rather, I expect that a certain situation will force them to do so. We have an example: When this leadership copncluded the Amman agreement, it did so on the basis of certain factors. This leadership made concessions, believing this might achieve something for the Palestinian people. But when this gamble failed after a year or so, the leadership was forced to announce the abrogation of the Amman agreement before the convocation of the PNC meeting.

[Sukkariyah] It is true that this leadership did revoke the Amman agreement. But in return it kept itself politically afloat during the national unity conference in Algiers in 1987. Then it continued this course until it declared its acceptance of Resolution 242.

[Habash] I agree that the official leadership entertains illusions with regard to the possibility of achieving a settlement. These illusions are being perpetuated. But our struggle and that of our masses will definitely terminate these illusions.

[Sukkairyah] There is a saying which springs to mind here; namely, he who spends 40 years in the jungle will come out with a permanent stoop.

[Habash] This is not a historical law. We do not chart our policy on this popular saying. We define our policy on the basis of historical laws.

[Sukkariyah] Although you have been talking since the 1970's about the deviation of this leadership's policy, this leadership is still continuing. What will rectify it?

[Habash] We look at this issue from this angle: In the national liberation stage, all classes, including the bourgeoisie, take part in the struggle against the national enemy. All these classes—the bourgeoisie, the workers, and the peasants—form a unified national front for the struggle against the enemy. But the toiling downtrodden classes pursue a firm radical political line in their confrontation with the national enemy—a line that does not gamble on illusions.

But the bourgeoisie always gambles on illusions. Regrettably, in the Palestinian revolution, the bourgeoisie has assumed a leading and influential position in the revolution. It is, therefore, incumbent upon us to accept this reality in order to overcome it. We are compelled to remain within the framework of national unity until the toiling and downtrodden classes become the leaders of the Palestinian revolution. There is no other solution, because division is worse than the situation you are talking about. [passage omitted]

[Sukkariyah] How much power does Yasir 'Arafat have over the uprising?

[Habash] The uprising is an uprising of the masses. Yasir 'Arafat represents a Palestinian organization—Fatah, which is a major organization in the Palestinian arena. When we speak of Palestinian national unity we do not do so in order to please 'Arafat, but for the sake of the young men, girls, and children who are throwing stones at the enemy and who consider 'Arafat their leader.

[Sukkariyah] This is a recognition of 'Arafat's power in the uprising. Since he has this power, he will use it to serve his political inclination.

[Habash] There will be a continuous struggle between 'Arafat's political inclination and that of the masses. The masses are demanding freedom and independence; that is, the Palestinian state, not disarmed, and with Jerusalem as its capital. This is not all. Our masses, while demanding the Palestinian state, reject the notion that the price for such a state should be the abandonment of the remaining Palestinian territories. We reject the notion that the price for the establishment of this state should be a recognition of Israel's right to exist.

I read the results of an opinion poll conducted in the West Bank. The poll included a question on whether the respondents would accept the establishment of a Palestinian state in return for recognizing Israel. Of those questioned in the poll, 78 percent said no. This means they accept a Palestinian state, but not if this involves a recognition of Israel's right to exist on 80 percent of the Palestinian land.

[Sukkariyah] What would the PFLP'S position be should the PLO obtain a kind of autonomy only, considering the atmosphere of rejection prevailing in Israel, what the United States wants, and what the PLO is heading for as part of its policy of concessions?

[Habash] I rule that out.

[Sukkariyah] suppose it happened?

[Habash] Yes, but I have a right to say that it is ruled out. The aim of the concessions 'Arafat is offering is to facilitate the establishment of a state. He is offering these concessions in order to obtain a state. I say that 'Arafat might accept that the settlements would stay, or make the issue of Jerusalem open to negotiations.

[Sukkariyah] There is talk about accepting...

[Habash] Accepting a disarmed state. However, it is hard for me to believe that 'Arafat would give up the issue of a flag and a seat in the United Nations; that is, it is difficult for him to abandon the idea of being a head of state.

Let us return to the question. Should this take place, nothing would then link us to 'Arafat. Not only this, do you think it would be easy for the Palestinian masses, with their long and glorious history of struggle, to accept any debasement of their national goals to such a level by any political leadership? I think you are doing the Palestinian masses an injustice.

[Sukkariyah] I am not doing the Palestinian people an injustice, I am just talking about a political fact in the PLO policy, which you described as the policy of concessions.

[Habash] The Palestinian people's stand toward the policy of concessions can be summed up as follows: If we gain a state as a result of these concessions, part of the masses would understand it. If we do not obtain a state despite these concessions, this leadership, which is known for its oscillation and pragmatism, would pursue another political line. I know our masses, and this is the way they look at this issue.

[Sukkariyah] Is there a possibility for change?

[Habash] It is hard to conceive of concession as far as the state is concerned.

[Sukkariyah] I meant change in individuals, as long as it is not possible to lead a revolution to change the course.

[Habash] We will continue struggling to change the political course and steer it in the direction of a patriotic stance which is firm in its hostility to the Zionist entity and imperialism, a stance which basically adopts the approach of struggle to gain our initial national rights and to prepare for gaining strategic national rights.

[Sukkariyah] Let us be more specific, doctor. When the Palestinian revolution possessed its military power and weapons, in Jordan and Lebanon, and when it later came to an end as a military power, particularly during events in Lebanon, you were not able to impose change. Will you be able to do that now without that power? What power do you have to impose this?

[Habash] I have a comment on that question. We, as a Palestinian people, are at the height of our power because of the uprising.

[Sukkariyah] Do you mean inside the occupied territories?

[Habash] The Palestinian revolution is indivisible. In the past 40 years since the establishment of Israel, the Israeli cause [as published] has never been that strongly presented.

[Sukkariyah] Was it the stone, rather than the rifle, which gave it this strength?

[Habash] Both complement each other. The rifle has paved the way for the stone. We can never look upon the stone as an alternative to the rifle. In the same way, the rifle has paved the way for the stone [as published]. The stone, in turn, is supposed to pave the way for a new wave of escalated armed struggle.

[Sukkariyah] In practice, in what areas outside those of the uprising is there an armed struggle? Where is this armed struggle?

[Habash] I think that you read AL-SAFIR.

[Sukkariyah] This is where I work.

[Habash] I am among AL-SAFIR readers and I read about resistance attempts to fight the Zionist enemy on the Lebanese borders.

[Sukkariyah] These, however, are not as strong as they had been before 1982.

[Habash] This is because of certain things. For instance, we encounter objective difficulties when we try to reach our occupied territories to point our weapons at the Zionist enemy. The first difficulty is represented by the UN forces. We then encounter [Southern Lebanese Army commander] Lahd's forces. The third barrier is the fence and the intensified measures adopted by the enemy to prevent any attempt at infilteration. Needless to say, there are other obstacles we know and refrain from talking about.

[Sukkariyah] In practice, there is an admission of weakness in the armed struggle. In other words, are there no grounds for that armed struggle?

[Habash] There is a difference between abandoning armed struggle and the presence of an approach to abandon or neglect the armed struggle and the obstacles we encounter when we try to put this armed struggle into practice against the Zionist entity from inside Arab borders.

[Sukkariyah] What is the meaning of 'Arafat's denunciation of terrorism? Was he referring to the armed struggle? And was his denunciation of terrorism an attempt to win over the United States?

[Habash] You should address this question to 'Arafat.

[Sukkariyah] But what is your own explanation?

[Habash] For our part, we regard 'Arafat's remarks at the Geneva news conference as completely extraneous to the resolutions of the recent PNC meeting in Algiers. 'Arafat went beyond the PNC resolutions in three respects. First, he denounced terrorism. I understand that 'Arafat could say: We are not terrorists; we are freedom fighters. But when 'Arafat says that he denounces the previous stage of the Palestinian national struggle, he is casting a slur on himself and he is also casting a slur on the struggle of the Palestinian people. This was extraneous to the PNC resolutions.

The second respect in which 'Arafat deviated from the PNC resolutions was by mentioning Resolutions 242 and 338 without linking them the right to self-determination. We have rejected all reference to the aforementioned resolutions, but some PNC members who voted in favor of this clause linked the resolutions to the right to self-determination. At his news conference, 'Arafat accepted the resolutions without reservations and without linking them to the right to self-determination.

As for the third deviation, this has to do with the issue of recognizing Israel. One of the proposals at the PNC meeting was that the word "Israel" should be mentioned in the context of naming parties that will attend the international conference. Some suggested Israel should be mentioned in reference to the security guarantees needed for the countries of the region. These proposals were rejected by the PNC.

'Arafat has thus transgressed on the PNC resolutions in these three instances. Therefore we wish to declare in the pages of AL-SAFIR that 'Arafat's remarks and his current policies are in flagrant violation of the PNC resolutions.

[Sukkariyah] All these seem to be good reasons for you to begin a process of "perestroyka" within the PLO.

[Habash] National unity is a mixture of unity and conflict. This is a scientific law. This is the law which we are following right now. We unite because there is a Ziodnist enemy facing us and we differ because there is a difference between a political line leading to victory and another leading to defeat.

[Sukkariyah] Who will win?

[Habash] The people and their political line will win. The masses of the uprising and their political line will win.

[Sukkariyah] Let us go back in time. I have a question about your political utterances since the PFLP's foundation, which can be summarized in one slogan defining your position; that is, "the rejection of settlements." Where do you stand on the current efforts to reach a settlement?

[Habash] The heyday of our rejection of settlements was between 1974 and the time when we left the Executive Committee in 1979. Ever since, we have remained part of the PLO and the PNC. However, we are no longer part of the Executive Committee, which is responsible for implementing PLO policies.

[Sukkariyah] You have left the arena, then, of the Executive Committee?

[Habash] Look, I would like to go back to the literature of the rejectionist front. The front in question was actually called "The Front for the Rejection of Capitulationist Solutions." We have not been opposed to settlements. We cannot possibly stand in the way of achieving a national settlement which allows us to pursue our struggle to achieve our goals in full. We are against capitulationist settlements. As I mentioned, the PFLP and I were associated with the front named the Front for Rejecting Capitulationist Solutions. We still reject such solutions.

Besides, we have to take existing political conditions into account. In 1974, some were wagering on Al-Sadat in the hope he would give us a state. Now there is an uprising holding on to slogans of freedom and independence. There is an uprising which has been going strong for 14 months. This is our current source of strength. This is the strength

that will guarantee that a settlement now will not be a capitulationist settlement but a nationalist one allowing us to continue our struggle to reach our strategic goals.

[Sukkariyah] Will the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue allow you to have a nationalist settlement?

[Habash] The uprising will grant us the nationalist settlement. Our assessment is that the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue was a result of the uprising. With 154 countries having decided to transfer the UN General Assembly to Geneva, it was natural that the U.S. Administration should feel isolated and that it would want to break this isolation or at least circumvent it. This, in our opinion, is why the United States agreed to deal with the PLO.

[Sukkariyah] There has been a price to be paid for the U.S. agreementg to deal with the PLO. This price was 'Arafat's remarks at his news conference in Geneva.

[Habash] My answer to that is that 80 percent of the explanation for the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue could be attributed to the uprising and 20 percent to freely-given, unjustified, and wrong concessions. In the end, the new developments are due to the uprising and without the uprising, nothing new would have happened.

[Sukkariyah] If we assume that the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue was initiated under pressure caused by the uprising, then why was this dialogue not conducted between the Americans and representatives of the uprising inside the homeland?

[Habash] Since its inception, the uprising has stated that it is an integral part of the PLO.

[Sukkariyah] Could the uprising, then, be a part of the PLO's policy of compromise?

[Habash] No, the uprising's stated policies can be found in the political statements issued by the Unified National Command. You will find a difference between the statements of the Unified National Command and the harmful policy of freely-given concessions which 'Arafat is following now.

[Sukkariyah] Are you not concerned a rift could develop in the ranks of the uprising between those for and those against PLO policies? Such differences are possible, particularly if the position of the Islamic trend is taken into account.

[Habash] The situation in the homeland requires all forces to cooperate. Forces working within the framework of the Unified National Command and those working within [the Muslim fundamentalist movement] "Hamas" simply have to join hands. Their world is one of struggle against the enemy and for freedom and independence. They have to work together for this goal and for the people. There have been some disruptions, but the national forces moved to contain them immediately. [Sukkariyah] Dr Habash, why in your opinion has the uprising not extended to the territories occupied in 1948; why has it been confined to the West Bank and Gaza Strip?

[Habash] There are two factors: The objective factors in the 1948 areas differ from the objective factors in the areas occupied in 1967 and in the Gaza Strip. What I mean by objective factors is that our masses in the areas occupied in 1967 are living under occupation and their sufferings are intolerable. Therefore, the intensity of the sufferings has played a role in sparking off the uprising. Please do not misunderstand me here. This does not mean that our kinfolk in the 1948 areas are not suffering from the Zionist entity's presence. But there is a difference between the suffering that results from occupation and that from the 1948 Palestinians' being treated as second-class citizens. This is all regarding the objective factors.

But the subjective factors do differ. The political leadership of our masses in the 1967 areas is linked with the Palestinian resistance factions. It is linked with Fatah, the PFLP, the DFLP, and so forth. But the status of our masses in the 1948 areas is slightly different in this regard. Rakah, that is, the Israeli Communist Party, represents the majority of the political leadership. For these two reasons, we find there is an uprising in the 1967 areas and backing for the uprising in the 1948 areas. I want to stress that my talk about the differences does not at all aim to belittle the nature of the struggle being waged by our masses in the 1948 areas.

[Sukkariyah] But the size of the uprising has not affected the 1948 areas as it should. In this case, do you think the transfer of the uprising to the other areas, particularly the Arab homeland, can be effected as you desire? Also, does Rakah represent a revolutionary state we want? Do you gamble on moderate Israeli forces? Who are these forces and who is Rakah?

[Habash] Concerning the first part of your question, we bet the uprising will expand if it continues for a long time and this is what we are working for. There are factors in the 1948 areas trying to step over the line of solidarity and support as presented by Rakah. There are Palestinian forces there who are pursuing a political line which differs from that of Rakah. Consequently, we hope the 1948 areas will witness a situation different from that which prevailed in the uprising's first year.

As for the second part of your question, every revolution seeks alliances. We could say Rakah does not support me 100 percent. But if Rakah supports me 40 percent, we must consolidate this alliance, particularly since it represents broad sectors of our Palestinian masses in the 1948 areas. [passage omitted]

[Sukkariyah] What results do you expect for the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue?

[Habash] Failure.

[Sukkariyah] In your opinion, when did this dialogue and coordination secretly begin, especially the security coordination which reportedly goes back to 1974 and was designed to protect U.S. interests in the region?

[Habash] I have no private information on this matter apart from what is published in the newspapers.

[Sukkariyah] That you do not know is an indictment of you.

[Habash] It is an honor for us.

[Sukkariyah] Dr Habash, amid the climate of international detente, the current changes in the Soviet Union, and the Arab regimes' stances, what do you expect of this settlement? Will the policy opposed to this settlement be limited in this climate? I mean, will you be overruled in such a climate?

[Habash] Doubtless the official Arab circumstances are the strongest prop of the Palestinian rightist policies and the policy of gratuitous concessions. Current international circumstances might be appropriate for us concerning attaining our right of establishing a Palestinian state. However, as for our inalienable historical rights to the land of Palestine, international legitimacy does not provide us with support to liberate all Palestinian soil or with support to repulse the Zionist scheme. These circumstances explain the realistic revolutionary policy which we are following at this historic moment.

I mean the current Arab and international circumstances do not give us anything more than the establishment of a Palestinian state in part of the Palestinian territories. We regard this as a gain on which we base our continued struggle. We regard it as a gain for us on the one hand and a beginning of the Zionist scheme's suicide on the other. Those who accurately follow and study the Zionist entity will discover that the establishment of a Palestinian state on 10 percent of the Palestinian land might lead to a civil war within the Zionist entity and a beginning of the Zionist scheme's retreat.

We in the PFLP consider the Zionist entity a fascist, racist, and aggressor entity with whom we cannot coexist; we consider Palestine to be Arab. However, I say at the same time that our experiment as a movement of pan-Arabists and as a popular front for the liberation of Palestine is 40 years old. Consequently it is not wrong to learn the lessons of these 40 years and base our tactics on them. We must draw out the lessons produced by the 40-year experience. For instance, during the past 40 years, the Zionist presence on Palestinian land became deep-rooted.

Can we destroy it with a finishing blow? If the answer is no, then we must dare to tell our masses: It is true that Palestine is Arab and that there can be no coexistence with Zionism and the Zionist entity. But it is true, nevertheless, that we cannot destroy this entity with a finishing blow and consequently responsible leaders must think of tactical battles which, by being won one after the other, might possibly lead to the strategic goal. Furthermore, an uprising is going on in the 1967 territories. This uprising compelled us to adopt the independence document and the proclamation of a state at the last PNC session.

[Sukkariyah] When will the state actually be established on the ground?

[Habash] We believe there will be a protracted process of struggle between the time the state is declared and the time it is established on the ground. The long time between these two points will witness long struggles.

[Sukkariyah] When will the government-in-exile be declared and will you be a minister in it?

[Habash] This subject was discussed at the most recent meeting of the Palestinian leadership, but the conferees made no decision in this regard. Naturally, we all know that when the PNC approved the independence document and the decision to declare a state, it simultaneously agreed that such a development necessitated the formation of a government for this state. However, the timing of the formation of this government was left to the PLO Executive Committee and Central Council.

As for the PFLP's participation or nonparticipation in this government, this depends on the following: first, the program of this government and, second, the relationship between this government and the PLO.

Some are trying to make this government a substitute for the PLO, which is something we can never accept. The Palestinian government must be a political tool in the hands of the PLO, which must continue to exist until its Charter is realized.

[Sukkariyah] Do you expect that, within the framework of concessions, the PLO leadership will abolish the PLO and content itself with the government and that the government's statement will be a substitute for the National Charter?

[Habash] It is unlikely because such a step would be considered repulsive. Moreover, the Palestinian right wing is too smart to flagrantly embark upon such a crude step.

[Sukkariyah] But, as I said, some are exerting efforts in this direction.

[Habash] Yes, there are those who are trying. This is why our participation or nonparticipation depends upon the clarity of several points and above all the program of this government and the relationship between this government and the PLO.

Through this interview with AL-SAFIR I would like to explain to our Palestinian masses the forthcoming concessionary steps, which I am afraid will take place:

1. After the declaration of the government, talks may begin between the provisional Palestinian government and the Jordanian Government on the establishment of a confederation. Consequently, we will return to the subject of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. I hope our masses will monitor this matter and begin to prepare to confront and completely destroy it.

2. The other danger, or the serious, free concession which we might face in the Palestinian arena, is direct negotiations. It is true there will be a kind of an international umbrella, but there is a great difference between direct negotiations under an international umbrella and an effective international conference with full powers.

[Sukkariyah] Are these the fears, doctor, which you mentioned to AL-SAFIR recently?

[Habash] Yes.

[Sukkariyah] Let us move to the issue of relations with the Soviet Union, and, perhaps, it will be the final question. What political effect has "perestroyka" had on you as a political line that depends on Marxism as a program? In other words, will you remain Marxists while others change? Did the Soviet Union put political pressure on you to ally with "Fatah" to prevent a split within the PLO? What is your view of the policy of "courtship" and openness between the Soviet Union and Israel?

[Habash] Honestly, we, in the PFLP, have not felt any pressure from the Soviet Union to follow a certain policy.

[Sukkariyah] Some sensed it at the national unity conference in Algiers.

[Habash] I attended the National Council's meeting. I met with the Soviet delegation, which was there, more than once. The delegation understood our stand and said: This is your concern. I will faithfully answer AL-SAFIR's readers. We do not sense any Soviet pressure to pursue a specific political line. The Soviet Union only stresses the importance of Palestinian unity.

We are convinced that this does not constitute pressure on us. We do not feel that the stand we have adopted regarding Resolution 242 has affected our relations with the Soviet Union or vice versa. We still consider the Soviet Union to be a strategic, principled, and trustworthy ally. The Soviet Union continues to consider the PFLP as one of the PLO's main and progressive groups.

[Sukkariyah] Don't you fear the change in the Soviet Union's foreign policy?

[Habash] What concerns us is the question of the Palestinian state. The Soviet Union is a superpower upon which we cannot impose the details of its policies, such as those pertaining to the question of immigration or to the restoration of relations with Israel. What we are interested in, as far as the Soviet Union is concerned, is its stand regarding our right to self-determination, which we interpret as our right to establish the Palestinian state. As long as this stand is favorable, the Soviet Union remains a strong and friendly ally and our greatest supporter in our confrontation with Zionist pressure. Thank you.

[Sukkariyah] There remains the question of the policy of openness toward Israel?

[Habash] I have answered implicity.

[Sukkariyah] There is a devilish question in my head but I must ask it. After a long life, what do you anticipate for the PFLP? Will it remain a Front as you wish or will it be divided into several fronts?

[Habash] [Laughs] First, the question should begin with what does George Habash expect of the Palestinian revolution and our cause, because I cannot expect the Front's future to be one isolated from that of the Paletinian revolution. As for the future of the Palestinian national struggle, I very clearly see our final victory over the Zionist plan. I say this sincerely and not in a demagogic or emotional way to boost morale. The fate of the Zionist invasion cannot be different from that of all the invasions to which the Palestinian homeland and the great Arab homeland have been subjected. The only thing I cannot say is when this will happen.

However, matters cannot proceed except in this direction. If the Zionist leaders fear the Palestinian infant yet to be born, then I wonder what the Zionist entity's fate will be. In the year 2000 or 2500, we shall constitute a proportion of the population which will play its role in the areas occupied since 1948 and in the destruction of this entity. We note in this respect what the Israeli papers describe as the new minefield to which Israel will be subjected and which will be bigger than the minefield of the uprising in the areas occupied since 1967.

There is no hope for the continued existence of this Zionist entity in our regions. On the basis of this, I expect the Front's role to grow and to have a greater effect in leading the Palestinian action toward its phasic and strategic goals.

## OPEC Affairs

### Saudi Source Denies Quota Violation Report

*LD2501211889 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2046 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] Riyadh 25 Jan, (SPA)—A responsible source at the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources has stated that a REUTER report quoting the IRANIAN NEWS AGENCY today that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is violating the recent OPEC agreement is nothing but fabrication.

The source added: The OPEC president, general secretary, and the Iranian oil minister are fully aware of the role played by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to ensure the adherence of all members of the organization to their commitments.

The source concluded its statement saying: Making such irresponsible remarks will negatively affect the market and will harm the interests of all members.

## Algeria

### Bendjedid Addresses Seminar on Economy

*LD2501145189 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] The national seminar on institutions opened this morning at the Palais des Nations in Club des Pins under the supervision of the prime minister.

The highlight of the opening session was the presence of the president, Mr Chadli Bendjedid, who presented an important speech to the seminar. Our correspondents Noureddine, Bouzian and Azzeddine Sahari have a report:

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] President Chadli Bendjedid attended the opening session of the national seminar on institutions this morning at the Palais des Nations due to the importance of the economic reforms.

President Chadli Bendjedid began his address by discussing the current Algerian economic and financial situation and the negative effects of the international crisis, which also affected all the countries of the Third World. Because of these difficulties, President Bendejedid said:

[Bendjedid] It has become necessary today to adjust our affairs, to control the management of our affairs, and to work according to a real austerity policy. When we say an austerity policy, this is not for the society in general, but applies to the behaviour of institutions, the daily management of all the economic institutions through discipline. We do not mean new discipline but discipline that has basically stemmed from your own wishes. I recall that in this very hall, we listened on many occasions to requests from you that authority be given to the managers of the national economy. This regards tutelage.

We do not mean complete independence, but some authority which enables you to deal with the daily problems which occur in your institutions, and at the same time enables you to shoulder your responsibilities clearly. This will make matters clear for every institution as far as tutelage and management of affairs are concerned. This is what we worked for when we drew up the legal bases for the institutions' independence.

[Correspondent] President Chadli Bendjedid in today's address repeated that the language of the future for economic institutions will be the language of profit, and that that the era of relying and depending on the public treasury has passed. He said:

[Bendjedid] The rules of the game for economic management do not differ in a socialist regime or a capitalist regime. Profitability is a principal base in the economic structure. Therefore your mission is managing and controlling the institution for profit, and also for the quality of the product.

[Correspondent] The head of state discussed in depth the new style of management, which will control economic practice and he analyzed and explained some points of the new organization of the institutions' structure, especially concerning the role of the institutions' director, and the authority of the board of directors. He then talked about what is hoped from the new reforms. He said that they should give us economic revival and would hopefully encourage the production institutions to improve the quality of their products. He said:

[Bendjedid] The quality of production must improve. Because of the state monopoly of internal trade, marketing in the domestic markets is secured. I am talking about both the public and private sectors. Therefore, in exchange for this security of the internal markets, we ask you to improve the quality. We are entering a phase in which there is competition in the Maghreb markets in terms of quality, and naturally also in price. Therefore, all the Algerian institutions should prepare themselves for this, prepare themselves firstly for the domestic requirements, and also for entering at least the Maghreb market, which needs amendments, preparations, quality, and prices, etc. We must do this if we really want to have a share of the market and compete with the others.

[Correspondent] President Chadli Bendjedid also talked today about the future management of the economic institutions, and repeated that the institutions' officials should open the doors of dialogue with the workers and their officials. Here he refered to the strikes which occurred recently in some units. He said that this cost us financial losses, which we could ill afford. The head of state announced that in the near future the right to strike law will be issued, which will determine responsibilities, rights, and duties. President Chadli Bendjedid did not forget today to remind the participants about the current preparations for the constitutional reforms. Here President Chadli Bendjedid said about the nature of the expected new constitution:

[Bendjedid] It will be a constitution which expresses the preoccupations of the overwhelming majority of Algerians. We do not want to exaggerate and say all Algerians, we say the overwhelming majority. This is concerning the coming constitution, Algerians' concerns about rights, duties, freedom of expression, and the practice of real democracy. This has become necessary because of the changes in Algerian society. Naturally these are the general outlines. In constitutions we cannot talk about options. The options are political options, and should be left for a political program. The constitution should be valid for all circumstances. It should be a constitution that remains for a long time, because constitutions do not change very 2 or 3 years. Constitutions should last for a long time. Therefore we took the necessary time, and we took into consideration the concerns of the whole Algerian society and all its political sensitivities, whether we like it or not. Things should go in an organized and responsible manner. This will benefit and stabilize this nation, which needs many things.

[Correspondent] President Chadli Bendjedid concluded his address by calling on economic managers to rise to the challenges of the era. He said:

[Bendjedid] I again stress to the brother managers of the national economy that if we receive some blame or criticism that does not mean that we have no confidence in our cadres. We call for more work and serious management of economic affairs, more austerity and more avoidance of waste, and taking more responsibility with courage, naturally within the framework of the law. [end recording]

### Morocco's Filali Comments on Talks in Algiers

*LD2501215689 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid today received Abdellatif Filali, Moroccan minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, who handed the head of state a message from King Hassan II.

The reception was attended by the minister of foreign affairs and the director of the Office of the Presidency of the republic.

Following this audience, the Moroccan minister of foreign affairs and cooperation made the following statement to radio correspondent, Slimane Mabrouki:

[Begin Filali recording] First of all, I should like to say that I am always proud to meet with his excellency the president. I know that he [words indistinct] thinks about Moroccan-Algerian relations and the relations in our region. Thus, my visit is that of an envoy from His Majesty to his excellency the president. It comes in the context of a dialogue on points of mutual interest to the two sides—First, bilateral relations.

God willing, we are awaiting the visit of his excellency the president to Morocco, which will be the first visit. Naturally, this visit calls for preparation of the topics that will be addressed during this visit. Everyone knows that fruitful cooperation has begun between Algeria and Morocco. I think that the Higher Cooperation Commission will meet in the very near future. There is also cooperation and (?consultations) in the sphere of gas.

All this bodes well. We are optimistic about the future of relations between Morocco and Algeria. We are also optimistic about the development of events in our region, especially regarding the building of a greater Arab Maghreb. As you know, there was a meeting in the city of Tunis yesterday and an exchange of views about the results of the subcommittees. We think that the results arrived at are very positive ones, whether in the economic, commercial, financial, social, or cultural fields.

We think that this is a constructive beginning to building the Arab Maghreb. We have not forgotten that less than a year ago no one even thought of such building. So, this is an important step, and we think that, God willing, the forthcoming Marrakech summit will shed new light on the development of the Arab Maghreb. Given the external challenges confronting us, we should confront them with total solidarity and with fruitful cooperation between the member states. [end recording]

Abdellatif Filali and his accompanying delegation left Algiers this afternoon, following a short visit which lasted several hours. He was seen off by Foreign Minister Boualem Bessaieh.

## Egypt

### MENA: Ties With Syria To Be Resumed 'Soon'

*NC2501123889 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1006 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] Riyadh, 25 Jan (MENA)—Citing Arab sources in Damascus, the Saudi newspaper AL-JAZIRAH affirms that the resumption of Egyptian-Syrian relations will be announced soon.

These sources said that the diplomatic efforts made by Saudi King Fahd and Jordanian King Husayn have played an important role in this and that an Arab figure who has tackled many issues will shuttle among a number of Arab capitals to complete the restoration of normal relations among the Arabs.

The sources told AL-JAZIRAH that Soviet efforts have played a prominent role in persuading the Syrian president to end the estrangement between Damascus and Cairo. The sources pointed out that the Syrian decision approving Egypt's readmission to the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development during a recent meeting in Damascus confirmed that Syria is fully aware of Egypt's role in joint Arab action and underscored Arab rapprochement.

The sources noted that contacts are now underway between Egypt and Syria through Jordanian and Saudi channels. They ruled out any likelihood that PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will visit Syria at the present time.

### Jordan's King Husayn Pays 1-Day Visit to Cairo

#### Talks With Mubarak

*NC2501184889 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] King Husayn of Jordan arrived in Cairo this evening for a 1-day visit to Egypt. He was met at Cairo Airport by President Husni Mubarak, Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi, and a number of deputy prime ministers and ministers.

President Mubarak and King Husayn have held a session of talks at the Republican Palace in Al-Qubbah.

### Discusses Arab Developments

*NC2601080089 Cairo MENA in English 0728 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] King Husayn of Jordan arrived here last night accompanied by Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, and began talks in private with President Mubarak immediately, "AL-AHRAM" and "AL-AKHBAR" reported in their second-lead stories.

They discussed developments in the Arab world and the Palestine question and the outcome of King Husayn's visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and current Arab contacts towards convening an Arab summit conference to settle current Arab problems and reach definite agreements for their solution.

King Husayn and President Mubarak also discussed international developments after George Bush became President of the United States and developments in the European position after the European Economic Community's three-member commission headed by the Spanish foreign affairs minister started to carry out its task. They took note of the positive stances of the Palestine Liberation Organization and PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat through intensification of the PLO-British and PLO-US dialogues.

President Mubarak gave a dinner banquet in honour of the Jordanian sovereign and his accompanying delegation.

The Egyptian and Jordanian leaders will hold a second round of talks this morning before King Husayn leaves back home.

### Departs Cairo

*NC2601104289 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1030 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] Cairo, 26 Jan (MENA)—King Husayn of Jordan left Cairo at noon today. President Husni Mubarak led a delegation which saw him off.

### UN Envoys Deliver Message to 'Abd al-Majid

*NC2101132189 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1245 GMT 21 Jan 89*

[Excerpt] Cairo, 21 Jan (MENA)—Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received a message from UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar during his meeting today with the UN secretary general's envoys Giandomenico Picco and Jean-Claude Aime, who are currently visiting Cairo. Ambassador 'Amr Musa, director of the Foreign Ministry's International Organizations Department, said after the meeting that the message concerned reviving the peace process. He added that Dr 'Abd al-Majid gave the envoys a message for the UN secretary general on Egypt's viewpoint and the need to expedite the convocation of the international peace conference.

Ambassador 'Amr Musa added Egypt believes the peace process must not stop and that intensive efforts must be made to reach a settlement as soon as possible. He said that both sides exchanged views during the meeting on the latest developments in the Middle East and on the UN role in providing impetus for the peace process. [passage omitted]

### IMF Delegation Arrives in Cairo for Talks

*NC2401051089 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2221 GMT 23 Jan 89*

[Text] Cairo, 23 Jan (MENA)—Paul Chabriet, deputy director for IMF Middle East operations, and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Cairo this evening to join the IMF experts mission which had arrived in Cairo last week. The talks between Egypt and the IMF are scheduled to begin tomorrow.

### President Mubarak Gives Speech on Police Day

*NC2501143089 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1103 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Speech by President Husni Mubarak at the Police Academy in Cairo on Police Day—live]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

Brothers, sons, members of the police force, it gives me great pleasure to meet with you on your national day, which is a national day for all Egyptians because it is the day of Egyptian nationalism, the day of sacrifices and giving. On this day each year we recall precious memories of the most splendid images of heroism and courage portrayed by members of the police force when they confronted the legions of invaders with only their personal weapons. They resisted a foreign force armed with the most potent modern weapons. They did not yield. They did not retreat. They were not shaken. They did not succumb but advanced toward sacrifice with a strength and boldness that surprised the enemy and embodied the dignity of Egypt and Egyptians. History has recorded this immortal stand on the pages of glory and pride.

This is always how the Egyptian is when the land calls on him to defend its sanctity, when duty calls on him to abide by national responsibility, and when he dazzles the entire world by sacrificing his life so that Egypt might live. We are a people bound together by hardship. Challenges bind our sons together. Tribulations incite this people to stand fast. They embark on their battles with a firm step and a strong will until they achieve victory. The pages of history that do not lie or flatter are witnesses to this.

The experience of the glorious October war is not far from our minds. All of Egypt, from north to south, was a firm and cohesive front and a confident and harmonious force. Its vanguards, the sons of the armed forces, advanced to the battlefront to achieve a military victory

that was miraculous by any criterion. Its internal front was united as a strong and splendid shield protecting the fighters' rear guard. Each citizen—the policeman, the doctor, the engineer, the worker, the farmer, the student—played his role in the most splendid way. Each group of people set the most superb example in the most immortal battle.

Security in Egypt in those difficult days was an excellent example of what comprehensive cooperation between policemen and the rest of the citizens should be. That cooperation brought about discipline and full commitment to the supremacy of law. It raised the flag of national unity high.

The Egyptian people hold the members of the police force in great esteem. They appreciate their arduous and continuous efforts to protect lives and institutions, safeguard sanctities, and preserve security.

Security is a mainstay from which we proceed to reconstruct, enhance development, create work opportunities, perform services, and build a dignified life on Egypt's good soil.

It pleases us, just as it pleases every Egyptian, to hear that our foreign guests have only praise and appreciation for security and stability in Egypt, although regional and international circumstances and events have destined us to live in one of the most volatile and unstable regions of the world.

This security situation requires two responsibilities: first, responsibility rests with the members of the police force to maintain their standard of performance and to follow up the scientific developments in the various security domains. Their work mission should spring from full faith that, with their thankful efforts, they are contributing to the homeland's prestige and safeguarding its supreme interests.

The second responsibility is equal in importance to the first; namely, it rests on the shoulders of all Egyptian citizens. It requires every citizen to cooperate fully with policemen and police departments, out of respect for the supremacy of the law, on the basis that security is a collective responsibility in which all officials participate, and in line with the principle, which has become entrenched in the general national conscience; namely, that the government cannot shoulder all the burdens alone and that each citizen must bear his share of responsibility.

Such cooperation between policemen and citizens enhances security, strengthens stability, and paves and prepares the road ahead of us for all the development and reconstruction efforts, enabling us to achieve all of our hopes.

Brothers, there is no doubt that the phenomena of extremism and terrorism, which appeared on the scene following World War II, have become worldwide in scope. The continuation of the world's instability following the end of the war has helped these phenomena to spread and increase. This has been followed by the conflict of ideas and interests, which has caused violence to play a role in these conflicts in several instances.

It is not strange that some extremist and teroristic ideas have infiltrated into our country under various guises, exploiting the conditions of war, which we waged, and then the conditions of peace and reconstruction in a difficult economic atmosphere.

An honest observer of events in Egypt would realize that extremism and terrorism are phenomena strange to our values and heritage. These phenomena are being expressed by a small minority that uses force and tries to impose its erroneous concepts and views on the overwhelming majority. These concepts and views are a departure from our very creeds and our sublime spiritual values.

I would describe it as an isolated minority, not for the sake of belittling the size of extremism and terrorism, but in recognition of the fact that many of our youth who are being misled by the ideology of extremism and terrorism are those who lack sound guidance. These youth are a trust in our hands. It is the responsibility of the state as well as men of opinions and knowledge and of writing and the media to light the road for the youth who are deceived by the false tendencies and interpretations.

They are our sons. They are an integral and indivisible part of society's structure. We must present proof, use persuasion, and offer good advice to keep them from following the wrong path and put them on the sound and right track.

This is our primary duty. Hence, I would say that extremism and terrorism are not solely security problems, but are, first and foremost, political problems. All of Egypt's political and social forces are participating in confronting this problem by coming up with solutions.

The security services have a poignant responsibility in this connection: to take precautions against the occurence of crime and to take all measures to protect society by confronting the effects of crime, as long as such actions by the security forces are carried out in society's defense and in acknowledgment of the law's supermacy. The security services in this regard should not be accused of being lenient, hesitant, or exhibiting any shortcoming in the discharge of their duty. The security services in this regard exert all necessary and extra efforts in society's defense.

The security men are vigilant and their hearts are imbued with a sense of national duty, responsibility, and courage for confrontation within the framework of the law's supremacy.

We have bright, splendid examples of those who have sacrified their lives while performing their sublime duty. We have numerous shining examples of those who are dedicated in carrying out their duty while subjected to the treacherous bullets of extremism and terrorism. We have a rich record of martyrdom for the homeland and the people's sake.

We extend our greetings to the police martyrs at all times. Greetings of gratitude, admiration, and allegiance from a people who do not forget the favor of their sons whose work is characterized by silence and humbleness. It is our duty to ensure the full dignified protection of the families of these noble martyrs in full appreciation of what the martyr had offered to his great family, Egypt, and of the dedication he had demonstrated in the performance of his duty with all courage, boldness, and self-denial.

Let me state this clearly and confidently: Terrorism will never strike in Egypt, because the Egyptian people, owing to their nature, their legacy, and their values, reject terrorism, avoid extremism, and refuse to engage in crime, aggression, and bloodshed. There shall be no toleration of any deviation from the values and sacred principles of Egyptian society.

There will be no toleration of any challenge to the law's authority and to the citizenry's safety. We shall use force against those who are led by ignorance, recklessness, and blind fanaticism in the belief that they can establish a state within the state.

The force of law is not being used for intimidation purposes, as some people claim in an attempt to promote their own goals. The fight against crime, in which the state is forcefully engaged, is not being carried out with the intention of spreading terror, as some say. Society's protection from the specter of a criminal minority is not oppression, as some people who like to play with fire allege. Safeguarding security and stability, in accordance with the Constitution and law, is a national responsibility which cannot be shirked and a national duty which cannot be shrugged off.

We are against terror in all its forms, whether by words, opinions, or bullets. We are advocates of freedom, of democracy, of life.

These are clear and straightforward words which I address from my position as the top executive in this country to those who use the issue of terror as a partisan ploy and who use it to camouflage the lack of substance in their opposition to the government. Such people have demonstrated a lack of understanding of the serious consequences of their irresponsible behavior, which contradicts the spirit of democracy.

In the past I have warned that attempts to cast slurs on security officials and to spread rumours about their performance constitute a criminal exploitation of the freedom of speech. Such exploitation is sinful. It is an inadmissible transgression on the boundaries of democracy that amounts to an attack on democracy itself.

I warn today that attempts to misrepresent the facts, to confuse right and wrong, and to cast aspersions on the procedures of law constitute an unacceptable invitation to chaos and to a call for terror to reign over the power of the law. This will be the death of democracy.

I repeat with all sincerity and honesty: No one can be protected without democracy, no one is secure without the protection provided by democracy, and no one can have a future unless democracy is safeguarded.

The reign of terrorism will not even spare those who demonstrate hypocrisy with terrorism. But the reign of democracy protects even those who deviate from democracy. This is the sound principle toward which all pens should impartially be devoted, without ignoring the facts of the sound democratic structure. Security in Egypt is comprised of law and the judiciary; a law that is applied to everyone, and a fair unbiased judiciary, whose actions and verdicts are governed by law.

I would like to turn again to the second responsibility—the responsibility of all citizens toward the protection of security—and appeal to all parties, constitutional establishments, and the various democratic societies and groupings to unify their ideas and views and make the general interest in confronting extremism and terrorism take precedence over their concerns and duties.

As we wage the battle of reconstruction, we face huge burdens and large obstacles. This makes it incumbent upon us to demonstrate a constant awakening and to make ceaseless, painstaking efforts. We are confronted with the problem of ensuring 400,000 new job opportunities every year. We face the problem of the dreadful population growth. We have the problem of the overall socioeconomic development. We also have the problem of providing serices to the citizens. We do not postpone shouldering our burdens nor do we evade confronting the responsibility.

Our national efforts are directed at serving this and future generations. We live in a society in which the young constitute over 40 percent of the total population. This means that most of our efforts in the areas of development, reconstruction, and improving the basic services aim to benefit the young.

Therefore, we have to keep the people well informed of the facts and the conditions of life in this country, as well as of the principles governing our work.

Who benefits from free education; from the additional resources of income; from the increased production; from the spread of small and large industries all over the country; from the building of new cities and new homes;

from the reclamation of the desert; from the paving of roads; and from the redoubled sources of energy? Who is to benefit from all that? The young people will, as well as future generations.

This is our society's gift to the youth. In return, we must pave the road for the young so that they can make their generous contribution to the country and learn how to surmount the obstacles and how to face the future without fear. Our young people should learn how to make their way through life by hard and purposeful work and by devotion to the great principles and the noble values. Our young should grow up to be open to creative thinking but to loathe narrow-mindedness and fanaticism.

Let us all work for such a future for our sons. Let our parties and organizations, let the honorable citizens of this nation show their regard for their country and their future by working for such a cause. The young belong to Egypt and Egypt should always be on their minds.

Dear brothers, the wheel of production is turning continuously in Egypt. The march along the road of reconstruction and development is proceeding with firm steps. The future, far and near, is promising and bright. Calls for despair and attempts to spike the wheel will not daunt our progress.

The best course for everyone is to join in the march of construction and development. Everyone should begin by reforming himself and by engaging in productive efforts instead of wasting time and effort in damaging the fruits of other people's work and in sounding the knells of despair and defeat.

New green fields continue to spring up in the desert, heralding life and hope of a better future. New factories are appearing across the width and the breadth of the country, promising redoubled production and new employment for our strong enthusiastic young generations.

The dream is coming true. This country is increasing its prosperity and gaining prestige. The march of reconstruction is proceeding like a sacred procession in which every Egyptian finds a place and to which we all contribute to the best of our energy and resources.

We have the soldier who protects the sacred national soil and offers his life in the arena of honor and sacrifice. We have the policeman who safeguards his homeland with his blood and soul. We have the factory and field worker who works day and night to promote the motto of Made in Egypt and to transform it into a source of pride and honor for every Egyptian. We have the scientist who devotes his life to serving science and knowledge in Egypt. We have the judge in his honorable niche who upholds righteousness and rules among people with justice. These are the vanguards of the great national march on the path of reconstruction and progress.

Each one should have his predesignated role and sacred mission. Each one should have his defined rights and duties. There should be no transgression on rights, no negligence of duties, and no indifference and vacillation. There should be persistent work for the love of Egypt. There should be reconstruction battalions that do not cease working on Egypt's sacred land.

Brothers, the external arena has witnessed several important developments in the last few months. We must exploit the positive aspects of these developments and employ them in the service of national and pan-Arab issues to achieve greater security and stability in the Middle East and Africa, and to enable these countries to mobilize their resources to confront the challenges of development and economic reform.

Within this framework, Egypt pays great importance to strengthening the edifice of peace in the Middle East and to paving the way for the beginning of negotiations among the parties concerned, in the forefront of which is the PLO, the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Morevoer, the PLO has accepted the general principles governing a comprehensive, peaceful settlement as demanded of it by the world community. It also has expressed its desire to establish a confederation between the Palestinian state and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, in light of the special relationship linking the two fraternal peoples.

A homogenous Arab stand in support of peace also has crystallized more than ever before. It has become possible to achieve greater coordination among the pertinent Arab parties, which are linked by the unity of aim and destiny.

It also has become necessary to translate this stand into a solid and cohesive front where solidarity is achieved, differences are dissolved and placed in their proper place and their correct context, and where polarization and blocs disappear. These are the bases that have governed our actions at the Arab level during the past several years. They stem from the belief in the unity of interest among all the various Arab countries and aim to achieve the higher Arab goals, foremost of which is the safeguarding of the Arab presence and the defense of pan-Arab security and strategic Arab interests.

In view of these positive developments, we believe that Israel should respond favorably to the international community's consensus on the need to hold the international peace conference as an indispensable step before negotiations which could lead to an historic conciliation [musalahah] between the Palestinian and Israeli people. This could uproot the Arab-Israeli conflict. It is not in the interest of any of the parties, including Israel, to squander this available golden opportunity to achieve a comprehensive and just peace based on a general popular acceptance, or to lose time in a futile argument on

detailed marginal points, because the goal, which is much more than that and more noble, concerns the future of all the peoples in the region and the fate of future generations.

Those who believe that the way out of the existing crisis is through the escalation of repression and violence in the occupied land are wrong. The lessons of both ancient and recent history tell us that violence breeds nothing but violence. The lessons also tell us that the solution of difficult problems begins when courageous stands are adopted that will bring the parties closer together and will create confidence and hopes in the hearts, thus heralding the creation of the basis for the peaceful settlement on which there is a consensus.

In this respect, we salute the peaceloving forces in Israel. We consider the courageous stand they have taken a step that heralds hope and expectation, because it is a stand that looks at the future in all its vistas and dispenses with the past with its setbacks and residues. The stand is harmonious with the movement of history and is in line with the true interests of peoples. It also tallies with the new phenomena that have appeared on the international stage in recent years, the most important of which is the emergence of a strong and clear trend all over the world against war and destruction and pro-peace and for coexistence. Either we live together in a world where the pennants of friendship and cooperation among peoples are flying, or we all perish in wars that will destroy all aspects of civilization and culture and take humanity thousands of years backwards.

From this premise we call for speeding up the conclusion of an agreement that would consolidate the cease-fire in the Gulf region, would end the war once and for all, and would lay down a strong basis for a stabilized peace between Iraq and Iran. This peace will constitute the foundation of a comprehensive peace and a sincere amity between Iran and all the Arab states in the Gulf.

Truly, we sense that Iraq, led by the wise policy of President Saddam Husayn, has a sincere, strong tendency toward establishing a lasting peace and an eagerness toward consolidating security and stability throughout the region.

We are confident that Iraq will be in the forefront of forces which work to spread peace and establish the pillars of stability and security in and outside the Gulf region. Therefore, we see no justification in the false accusations which certain circles have levelled recently against Iraq. These accusations are based on these circles' failure to absorb the new realities and on their insistence to remain captive to the past and to form their concept on the basis of fears instead of forging toward the future with work and hope.

Brothers, I tell you with all confidence and conviction that our present day is secure and our future will be replete with happiness. Our hearts are imbued with a security that is guiding us to the sound road. Our willpower is capable of overcoming everything deemed impossible. The strength of our minds and arms are forging ahead toward building and well-being.

Every day we have a date with new work, and every new work has a date with the building of life. The life we seek is based on justice, equal opportunity, increasing resources, and true democracy.

My visits to the work sites and housing communities alleviate all of my effort no matter how difficult, and opens before me the doors of great hope. During these visits, I meet with outstanding examples of superiority and determination, the will to sacrifice and give, the ability to create, the rejoicing over more accomplishments in Egypt, and the dreams for a continuous shining future. There is no darkness or persecution, only light and courage; there is no hesitation or shaking, only confidence, determination, and firmness.

I thank God there is a growing sense in this country of the responsibility which every citizen in every position should assume. I thank God there is an increased public awareness that the state should not be required to take full responsibility for every single matter.

Our people are engaged in millions of individual initiatives. Our young men and women are working in the desert and testing themselves against the difficult challenges of development.

The beams of hope are emanating from one production site in our country to another. The spirit of work is spreading its warmth across the nation. The sun is rising on this country, never to fall. A new life is being born.

It is a fact that the truth always comes out in the end and that the right path is worthy of being followed, even at times when falsehood gains currency. We have to work hard and honestly so as to rebut every call of despair and to thwart every attempt to make us stumble and lose heart. This is how we will put our democracy to good use.

There is room in our public debates for all opinions. There are no constraints or censorship on public speech. The only censorship, if any, is that of the people, of the judgement of public opinion and its ability to differentiate between what is valid and what is not, what is good and what is not.

We have talks ahead of us to tackle and little time for idle talk. Our way is forward. We cannot take one step backward. This country promises hope and justice to everyone of its citizens. Justice is the guiding principle of our judiciary and the goal of our laws.

I ask God Almighty always to guide our steps to goodness and peace. May God grant us His blessing. Peace be on you and the mercy of God. [applause]

## Minister Zaki Badr on Extremism, Narcotics

*NC2501125389 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1025 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Excerpts] Cairo, 25 Jan (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today attended the closing session of the International Seminar on Protecting the Rights of Crime Victims currently held in Egypt on the occasion marking Police Day. [passage omitted]

Interior Minister Zaki Badr made a speech in which he asserted that democracy is becoming stronger and more solidified in our country. He said that President Mubarak is defending democracy despite the slight violations that occur. [passage omitted]

The interior minister spoke about extremism and terrorism which act under the mask of piety and religion and challenge the law and legitimacy in an attempt to prove their existence and defy the regime. He said that security organs in Egypt are standing up firmly and strongly to groups advocating extremism and terrorism. He called on these groups to reread the Almighty's word and asserted that the police do not reject dialogue and quiet arguments.

Touching on the issue of narcotics, the interior minister asserted that narcotics threaten both Egyptian society and international society. In this respect, he noted the increasing and dedicated efforts being made by the Egyptian police to fight narcotics and noted the results of these efforts.

Zaki Badr pointed out that the volume of narcotics is actually increasing and that this danger threatens the present and the future alike. He stressed that the execution of narcotics dealers and smugglers is the ideal solution to the problem, noting that several countries have applied this solution. He also called for reconsidering the punishments the law stipulates for narcotics dealers. [passage omitted]

## Mubarak Holds Meeting With Cabinet Ministers

*NC2201084289 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0805 GMT 22 Jan 89*

[Text] Cairo, 22 Jan (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak held a meeting at the presidential office this morning to discuss Egypt's foreign policy and the latest international developments. Attending the meeting were Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi; Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning; Dr Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister and minister of agriculture and land reclamation; Dr Maurice Makramallah, minister of state for international cooperation; and Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the president's Office for Political Affairs.

## Holds 2d Meeting With Officials

*NC2201112889 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0952 GMT 22 Jan 89*

[Text] Cairo, 22 Jan (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak held another meeting at the presidential office before noon today. Attending were Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi; Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Dr Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister and minister of agriculture and land reclamation; Minister of Information Safwat al-Sharif; Lieutenant General Safiy al-Din Abu Shinaf, chief of staff of the Armed Forces; Dr Usamah al-Baz, director of the president's Office for Political Affairs; and Dr Nabil al-'Arabi, Egypt's permanent representative at the UN European headquarters in Geneva and head of Egypt's delegation to the Tabah talks.

## Mubarak Rules Out Changes to Constitution

*NC2101215789 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2115 GMT 21 Jan 89*

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jan (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak met tonight with the members of the NDP political club at NDP Headquarters on the Nile corniche in Cairo. People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, Consultative Council Speaker Dr 'Ali Lutfi, Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi, as well as several deputy prime ministers, ministers, and leading NDP figures attended the meeting.

Following the meeting, President Mubarak said in response to journalists' questions that there will be no amendment to the Egyptian Constitution. Once we start talking about constitutional changes, the Constitution will lose its commanding authority and turn into a mere law, Mubarak said. The president's remarks came in response to recent articles calling for changes to the Constitution.

The president said: Many nations have valid constitutions which were written long ago. The United States, for example, has a constitution that is 200 years old.

President Husni Mubarak arrived at NDP Headquarters at 1830 today and was welcomed by NDP Secretary General Dr Yusuf Wali, Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif, Dr Ahmad Salamah, Kamal al-Shadhili, and NDP assistant secretaries. The president chaired a meeting of the NDP General Secretariat that was attended by the secretary general and the assistant secretaries.

Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif said that President Mubarak discussed with the members of the General Secretariat several party issues and gave them guidelines with regard to the party's policies in the current stage.

### Mubarak Meets With NDP Committees

*NC2201112689 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 22 Jan 89*

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has asserted that the government is eager to enhance the process of achieving social balance among all segments of the society through its subsidy for basic commodities, which totals approximately 10 billion pounds annually. This, he added, contributes to achieving security for all sectors of the society and to raising individual living standards, especially for those with limited incomes. This was stated at President Mubarak's meeting late last night with the NDP agricultural and irrigation committees.

At the meeting, the conferees discussed issues of cotton and poultry production and the importance of increasing productivity to meet local consumption demands and to achieve a surplus for export. The president emphasized the need for the government to reschedule cotton cultivation loans in some Upper Egypt governorates. The president noted that the public sector is of special significance as it works to subsidize and procure commodities in order to maintain steady prices for people with limited incomes.

On poultry production, the president had given recommednations to consolidate this industry with all the necessary capabilities and services. This was announced by Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif at the conclusion of the meeting which was attended by the People's Assembly and Consultative Council speakers, deputy prime ministers, cabinet ministers, the NDP secretary general, and NDP members of the People's Assembly and Consultative Council.

### Lawyers Association To Hold Elections

*NC2401132789 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Jan 89*

[Text] Cairo, 24 Jan (MENA)—The Egyptian Lawyers Association Council held a meeting under its chairman Ahmad al-Khawajah last night. The council decided to hold elections for the chairman and members of the council and to open a registration list for interested candidates for 10 days as of 28 January.

The council also decided to form a neutral committee to supervise the elections.

### Ministry Aide Denies Recall of Security Troops

*PM2401123089 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 19 Jan 89 p 1*

[Unattributed report: "Egypt Denies Recalling Central Security Forces"]

[Text] Cairo, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Bureau—A responsible source of the Egyptian Interior Ministry yesterday denied the report by an Egyptian opposition paper that the ministry was planning to recall demobilized Central Security troops.

The source added that the Higher State Security Prosecution Department has been notified and asked to investigate the motives behind that false and provocative report.

## Libya

### Al-Qadhdhafi To Visit Several Arab States

*JN2601103389 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' in Arabic 26 Jan 89 p 7*

[Excerpt] Reliable Libyan sources stressed to AKHBAR AL-USBU' that the Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi intends to begin large-scale moves on the Arab scene for talks with the Arab leaders on the developments in the Middle East. Al-Qadhdhafi is making these moves in light of the changes in various positions and the assumption of George Bush, known for his firm stands as reflected in his inauguration speech, of his duties as the new president of the United States.

The countries that Al-Qadhdhafi intends to visit include Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Kuwait, the UAE, and Iraq, which will be the last station on his tour. [Passage omitted]

### Industrial Agreement Signed With Tunisia

*LD1801001789 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1430 GMT 18 Jan 89*

[Excerpt] Tripoli, 18 Jan (JANA)—An industrial cooperation agreement between the Great Jamahiriyah and sisterly Tunisia was signed this morning in Tripoli.

The clauses of the agreement, which was signed by the brother secretary of the General People's Committee of Industry, and by Brother Moncef Belaid, Minister of Trade and Industry in sisterly Tunisia, provide for the creation of a joint company for the production of light transport facilities and for other factories for the production of parts for light transport in both the Great Jamahiriyah and in sisterly Tunisia, with the aim of achieving full industrialization.

The agreement also provides for cooperation in the manufacture of agricultural tractors, and the leather, textile, electronics, electric wires and cables, and iron industries.

The agreement stipulates the exchange of experts and visits in order to view the existing possibilities in the two brotherly countries. [passage omitted]

## Morocco

### Bendjedid Visit, Maghreb Summit Date Changed

*LD2501214189 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1530 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] Independent Moroccan newspapers AL-'ALAM and L'OPINION announced in their issues today that the Maghreb summit meeting is scheduled for 15 February instead of 30 and 31 January.

These newspapers, the organs of the Independence Party, added that the official visit by Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid to Morocco will precede the summit meeting and that King Hassan II will receive his Algerian guest in Fez then Ifrane.

## Sudan

### Prime Minister Postpones Visit to Egypt

*NC2501181289 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1802 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] Khartoum, 25 Jan (MENA)—Sudanese Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's visit to Egypt, scheduled for 1 February, has been postponed to the 2d week of February.

This was disclosed today by Sudanese Interior Minister Hasan 'Abdallah al-Turabi, who added that a symposium on the Charter of Brotherhood between the two countries will be held during the visit under the chairmanship of the two countries' prime ministers.

### Official, Libyan Envoy Discuss U.S. 'Threats'

*AB2501184989 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 2130 GMT 24 Jan 89*

[Text] Dr Ali Hasan Taj al-Din, member of the State Council, at the Republican Palace this morning reviewed with His Excellency Mr Jun'ah al-Ghazzani, secretary of the Libyan Brotherhood Bureau, ways of implementing bilateral programs of economic relations and trade.

After the meeting, the secretary of the Libyan Brotherhood Bureau said regional political developments were reviewed with particular reference to the recent American threats against the Libyan Jamahiriyah and the prospects for detente with the new American Administration of President George Bush.

### Bahr al-Ghazal Governor Says Situation 'Stable'

*AB2401173689 Omdurman National Unity Radio in Arabic 1300 GMT 24 Jan 89*

[Text] Mr Sid Uthman Tamim Fartak, governor of Bahr al-Ghazal Region, has affirmed that the security situation in the region is stable and that the Armed Forces are in control there. He has also said that the food supply has improved following the arrival of relief items. This was disclosed during his meeting with Defense Minister General Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil, retired. They discussed the security situation and food supply in the region. Last week, trains guarded by the Armed Forces and loaded with food items arrived in Aweil.

### Commissioner Cited on Khartoum Demonstrations

*PM2501091289 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 19 Jan 89 p 1*

[Muhammad Mahjub report: "Sudanese Capital Commissioner To 'UKAZ: Leftist Organization Behind Sabotage Demonstrations in Khartoum"]

[Text] His Excellency Major General al-Fatih 'Abdun, commissioner of the Sudanese capital, has confirmed to 'UKAZ that a leftist organization was behind the sabotage demonstrations staged the day before yesterday in Khartoum and Omdurman.

He said that the organization calls itself the "Student Struggle Front" and distributed leaflets instigating sabotage acts against public properties.

Maj Gen al-Fatih 'Abdun added that it was the same organization that incited students to barricade streets in Omdurman.

He pointed out that the demonstrations were not large, but involved only a few citizens who distributed provocative leaflets.

'Abdun said the elements that staged the demonstrations will be questioned to determine the real objective of and those behind the demonstrations.

Demonstrations were staged the day before yesterday in both Khartoum and Omdurman following the Sudanese Government's decision to increase sugar prices by 150 percent.

### Al-Turabi Cited on Domestic, Regional Issues

*PM2301162889 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 14 Jan 89 p 16*

[Report on telephone interview with Dr Hasan al-Turabi, justice and foreign minister, by Muhammad Mahjub in Khartoum; date not given]

[Excerpts] Sudanese Justice and Foreign Minister Dr Hasan al-Turabi has emphasized that the meeting of State Council Chairman Ahmad al-Mirghani, Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, Dr Hasan al-Turabi, and Democratic Unionist Party leader Muhammad 'Uthman al-Mirghani dealt not with the formation of a government or participation in it but with improving relations between government and opposition. [passage omitted]

On the formation of a new government Dr al-Turabi said: The government still stands and vacant positions will be filled by appointment [ta'yin], not assignment [taklif]. Central and regional government positions will be limited and some central government ministries will be merged. As for regional governments, expenditure will be reduced.

Answering a question about rumors that the state has gone back on its decision to increase wages, his excellency said: There will be no backtracking from the decision to increase wages, but taxes will have to be formulated in another way without impinging on the people's sensitivities. This, because taxes must be imposed. They can be formulated in a different way in the various sectors, because the Sudanese people as a whole must pay the extra costs in order to improve salaries as a form of social security and mutual responsibility.

In reply to reports by news agencies that the Sudanese Government has become fragile and weak, Dr al-Turabi said: If some of the things happening in Sudan had occurred in certain other countries, their regimes would have been toppled. But Sudan is a complicated country. Its public life experiences, troubles, and crises prove that its regime is very strong. If such troubles had affected the regimes of certain other countries, they would have been completely toppled. If there were a military regime in Sudan, it would have been overthrown by now. The present regime in Sudan may not be strong, but it is flexible enough to absorb many crises, including economic and unionist crises, as well as the problems relating to the formation of a government. [passage omitted]

Asked by 'UKAZ about the effect of the resumption of relations between Kenya and Israel on developments in the ongoing war in southern Sudan and border security, Dr al-Turabi said: This is certainly a negative factor since even before the resumption of relations with Israel Kenya became a staging post for certain rebel elements opposed to Sudan. Furthermore Israel has always tried to besiege Sudan in the south in order to lay siege to the Arab strength in Africa—which obviously poses a further threat to Sudan.

With regard to his view of the agreement signed between Zaire and John Garang in support of the rebel movement in southern Sudan, the Sudanese justice minister said: We are still unsure of the reliability of these reports. However, Zaire cares about neighborly relations with Sudan, and so does Uganda. But if these trends strengthen, then Sudan's brothers and friends must be aware of the seriousness of the matter, especially since Sudan has relations, friendships, and alliances. [passage omitted]

### SPLA Official on Al-Mahdi Peace Proposals

*EA2301210589 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 23 Jan 89*

[Excerpts] In reply to a question from a Radio SPLA correspondent on the statement of Al-Sadiq that he will present fresh peace proposals to the Constituent Assembly, Commander Lam Akol Ajawin, alternate member of SPLM-SPLA Political-Military High Command, says that al-Sadiq al-Mahdi likes to talk for the sake of talking. He is the last man to talk of peace, especially after he rejected the Sudanese peace initiative by a resolution of the Constituent Assembly on 21 December 1988. The Sudanese peace initiative was endorsed by all sections of the Sudanese public, who are yearning for peace. The only odd men out of this unanimity are Sadiq and Turabi. Therefore, those noises from Sadiq about peace can only be seen as a desperate attempt to bail himself out of the political impasse and popular isolation he got into by refusing peace and opting for war. [passage omitted]

Any talk of holding the national constitutional conference without the endorsement of the Sudanese peace initiative and the implementation of its provisions cannot be taken seriously and, indeed, does not deserve the least attention. The provisions of the initiative are unambiguosly clear, and any attempt to interpret them contrary to what they mean is a transparent gimmick bound to fail. In conclusion, Cdr Lam Akol called for the masses to be very vigilant and on the look-out, as the enemies of peace and national unity will spare no effort, using all means to divide the forces of peace and drive a wedge into their ranks.

### Former Government Officials Ordered Released

*AB2501212889 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] Khartoum, 25 Jan—The State Security Court has issued a decision ordering the release of Dr Sharif al-Tuhami, minister of energy in the former government of Numayri; Dr Umar al-Shaykh Umar, manager of the petroleum public corporation of that period; and Baha al-Din Muhammad Idris, minister of presidential affairs of the Republic in Numayri's government.

(?The court) presided over by Judge Ahmad Ja'far Hamid ordered the accused involved with the oil purchases case to be released. The court said that it made the decision on the basis of (?a letter from) the attorney general last November [word indistinct] and abandoned the trial procedures for lack of evidence and charges statements.

The trial of the accused in the case was halted toward the end of 1987 because of the ill health of the first accused, Dr Sharif al-Tuhami, who had (?been transferred) to the hospital. [passage indistinct]

## Tunisia

### Ben Ali Receives Maghreb Delegations

*LD2401202789 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 24 Jan 89*

[Excerpt] President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali has once again expressed his optimism about the future of the Maghreb march, thanks to the climate of harmony and trust now distinguishing relations between the region's countries, and thanks to the firm determination and continuous eagerness of their respective leaders to serve common interests in an atmosphere of concord and

solidarity. This came at a meeting this afternoon in the palace of the republic in Carthage between the head of state and the members of the Maghreb delegations now meeting in Tunis in the context of the Higher Maghreb Committee, which is in charge of preparing for the forthcoming summit of regional leaders.

President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali affirmed that setting up a border-free Arab Maghreb has now become an inevitable necessity and one of the conditions for the survival and invulnerablity of our countries in a world where blocs and groups prevail; there is no room for isolation and narrow local views. The head of state said that establishing the greater Arab Maghreb is a step-by-step process which requires perseverance, continuous effort, bringing together resources, and closing ranks, so that it will give the region's countries the ability to successfully confront the future's challenges in a climate of respect for the specific characteristics of each individual country of the Maghreb. [passage omitted].

**Hedi Baccouche Receives Libya's Al-Humaydi**
*LD2501152889 Tripoli JANA in English 1453 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] Tunis, Ay al-Nar [January] 25, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi held a meeting yesterday evening in sisterly Tunisia with Prime Minister Hedi Baccouche. The meeting was attended by Abdelhamid Escheikh the foreign minister, Chedli Neffati the minister of the interior and the general envoy of Great Jamahiriyah to sisterly Tunisia.

During this meeting, which was held on the periphery of the third meeting of the Maghreb Supreme Committee, they discussed cooperation between the Arab Maghreb countries to back the continued unity steps being witnessed by the region on the road to the pan-Arab unity and the means to back such cooperation to serve the interest of the one Arab people in those countries and realised its ambitions and hopes in unity.

## Kuwait

### Bush Appointments Cause 'Concern' Among Arabs

*LD2501222389 Kuwait KUNA in English 1944 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[By Raphael Calis]

[Text] Washington, Jan 25 (KUNA)—Despite the favorable impression that President George Bush and his Secretary of State James Baker have left in the Arab world, there is some growing concern among Arab diplomats and experts here in Washington that some key appointments within the new administration are becoming "a cause for worry" for the Arabs.

As key posts within the administration are filled—many of which are at the crucial sub-cabinet levels—the concern is focussing on the rising number of the so-called Kissinger followers who are assuming these key jobs, especially those dealing with relations with the Soviet Union and with the Arab world and Israel.

The National Security Council [as received] Brent Scowcroft and Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger are both considered Kissinger associates and both share his distrust of the Soviet Union and his blind support for Israel.

Considering the fact that the Secretary of State James Baker is still a novice in foreign affairs, there are fears that both Scowcroft and Eagleburger will, under the shadow influence of Kissinger, have a direct impact on U.S. foreign policy under the Bush administration.

Eagleburger, in particular, is known within the pro-lobby circles in Washington as one of "Israel's best friends" in Washington.

Both Kissinger and Eagleburger, for example, are known to have advised the Israeli Government to "crush" by force the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories. Both are on record as having urged that the Western media be barred from entering the occupied territories to cover the intifada.

Last year, speaking at a think-tank seminar in Washington, Eagleburger came out against the whole concept of an international conference for solving the Middle East conflict.

The post of assistant secretary of state for the Near East is still vacant and no replacement has been named for Richard Murphy who has now left the administration. The U.S. ambassador to Egypt, Richard Wisner, and the ambassador to Tunisia, Robert Pelletreau, are both tipped for the important post. But both career foreign service officers are experts on the Middle East and are known to have a [words indistinct] at the Near East bureau of the State Department. They are considered "Arabists."

But at a lower level, Dennis Ross, an expert on the Middle East known for his pro-Israeli positions, has been appointed to head the important bureau of policy planning, which prepares position papers for the administration on various issues, including the Middle East.

Equally worrying to Arab diplomats was the report that Aaron David Miller, a State Department official who is an expert on the Palestinians, is the leading contender to move to the White House to head the Middle East department at the National Security Council under Scowcroft. This is considered a key job that [word indistinct] all policy recommendations on the Middle East coming out of the White House.

In 1975, Miller did a detailed study on the Palestinians for the State Department which was considered hostile to Palestinian aspirations to self-determination and a homeland in an independent state. The fact that he is a Jew was recently highlighted in an article in Washington's "Jewish Week".

One Arab expert said here Wednesday the presence of the Eagleburger-Ross-Miller axis within the new administration spells bad news to the recently-opened dialogue between the U.S. and the PLO.

"With so much talk going on about the Bush-Baker even-handed approach to the Middle East, there is no doubt that the pro-Israeli lobby has mobilized its forces in Washington to install their own moles within the administration in key sub-cabinet positions to prevent a further tilt towards the Arabs," explained one Arab diplomat.

The experts who closely monitor the Washington appointments note that some key pro-Israeli elements are also being brought into the Pentagon in an attempt at preventing or at least diluting the Bush administration's declared policy of favoring major arms sales to the fn [as received] countries.

The expected appointment of Paul Wolfowitz to the job of undersecretary of defense for policy at the Pentagon is considered bad news by Arab diplomats who know his past record. In that post, Wolfowitz would be responsible for shaping decisions on arms control, military strategy and the key issue of foreign military assistance and therefore he will play a key role in relations between the Pentagon, the State Department, the National Security Council, and the White House.

Wolfowitz is considered by the pro-Israel lobby in Washington as one of the best friends of Israel. In the past, he had worked closely at the State Department with Lawrence Eagleburger in his capacity as head of the bureau of politico-military affairs.

"So now we see the ring of pro-Israeli supporters within the new Bush administration expanding even further," one expert who asked to remain anonymous said, noting that the Kissinger-Eagleburger-Ross-Miller-Wolfowitz alliance causes "major concerns" that the long-expected Bush tilt towards a more even-handed policy in the Middle East might not actually materialize.

"Working closely with the pro-Israeli members of congress, these key officials within the administration are capable of thwarting any attempt by Bush and Baker to tilt American policies towards the Arab world," the expert added. "They are also capable of magnifying or orchestrating problems, for example, in the U.S.-PLO dialogue in an attempt at halting it."

Aides close to President Bush, however, do not share these Arab concerns. In private conversations, they express their conviction that U.S. foreign policy under Bush will be handled personally by the President himself "and he, as a foreign policy expert, will call the shots at the end of the day," one Bush aide commented.

These aides refer to Bush's public comments, for example, that the recently-opened dialogue between the U.S. and the PLO continue and expand short of some major developments that might involve the PLO in a breach of the three commitments made by Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

They also point to both Bush and Baker's public commitments that they are in favor of major arms sales to the Arab countries. These aides are also quick to emphasize the fact that for the first time in American history, an Arab-American, John Sununu, is in a key position as White House Chief of Staff.

## PDRY

### 'High-Level' Delegation Visits CSSR

#### Al-Bid Heads Delegation

*EA1701205689 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 17 Jan 89*

[Excerpts] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, left Aden for Prague this morning at the head of a high-level party and government delegation on an official visit to the CSSR at the invitation of the CPCZ Central Committee. He was seen off at the airport by brothers Salim Salih Muhammad, assistant secretary general and secretary of the YSP Central Committee; Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council; and members of the Political Bureau and the Central Committee. [passage omitted]

The brother secretary general is accompanied by a high-level delegation comprising brothers Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah Muhsin, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee; Dr Salih Muhsin, member of the Central Committee and director of the office of the secretary general; Dr Abd al-Aziz al-Dali, member of the Central Committee and foreign minister; Aidah 'Ali Sa'id, member of the central committee and secretary general of the General Federation of Yemeni Women; Dr Muhammad Ahmad Jurhum, member of the Central Committee and minister of Culture and Information; Dr 'Abdallah Muhammad Uthman, member of the Central Committee and Minister of Industry, Trade, and Supply; Abd al-Wasi Sallam, minister of Justice and Religious Endowments and a number of other officials.

#### Gives Dinner Speech

*AU1901171989 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 18 Jan 89 p 2*

[Speech by 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party, at the dinner given in his honor in Prague on 17 January]

[Excerpts] Esteemed Comrade Milos Jakes, esteemed Comrades, esteemed Assembly: Together with the members of our delegation, I am truly glad to meet again the party and state leadership of your friendly country, to which we are bound by firm ties of friendship, embodied in the firm and cordial relations between our two parties and the people of our two countries. Permit me to express deep gratitude to the leading representatives of your party and the CSSR state for their invitation, for the opportunity to exchange views on the further development of mutual contacts between our friendly parties and the people of our two countries, and to discuss issues of common interest. [passage omitted]

Esteemed Comrade Milos Jakes, esteemed comrades, our common ideas, wishes, and interests, and our justified longings lead us to strengthen and develop bilateral relations between our friendly parties and the people in our two countries. We are very glad to note that the curve of these relations is steadily rising on the basis of the firm legal foundations for their consolidation and development, which were laid down by the Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation signed by our countries on 14 September 1981. Our everyday practical experience has specifically proved that these principled relations correspond to the vital interests of our two peoples, that they are in full harmony with our common ideological values, and that they are contributing positively toward creating a new model of honorable and constructive relations between states and nations.

We gladly and proudly appreciate the projects implemented in our country with the assistance of socialist Czechoslovakia, projects which have become an outstanding element of the mutual ties between our countries; at the same time, we are looking with even greater interest toward the future, toward the further development and expansion of these ties in all spheres. Simultaneously, we greatly appreciate the selfless international assistance which the CPCZ and the people of friendly Czechoslovakia are granting to our party and our people, and express sincere gratitude for your firm, principle-minded stands in support of our revolution, particularly at the time of severe trials.

Such honorable stands, which have become part of the history of Yemeni-Czechoslovak relations, give realistic weight to the wish to develop them further, and strengthen our confidence that in future our relations will acquire much broader and richer contents, and will expand for the benefit and prosperity of both sides. We sincerely believe that such truly friendly relations as those binding our countries cannot fail to take the road of constant progress, like pioneers marching toward new horizons.

Esteemed Comrade, our people are diligently pursuing the tasks of economic, social, and cultural development under difficult and complicated domestic and external conditions. We have attained our national independence. Our state emerged 21 years ago, after a period in which colonialism and its local helpers had split up the country into 22 small formations, sultanates, emirates, and sheikhdoms under direct, or else protective, colonial rule. Progress and development still have to cope with many difficulties in our country. Some we have inherited from the split and obsolete past, others appeared during the process of new construction work, in connection with the political mistakes of left-wing and right-wing opportunist streams.

The domestic and foreign enemies of our revolution strove to abuse these difficulties; on quite a few occasions they provoked severe crises on the basis of these difficulties, so as to frustrate the path of socialist orientation and lead our revolution astray. However, our people, who have attained their freedom and have realized that only the road of independent, progressive development leads to life and a future, have preserved their loyalty to the revolutionary values and goals and, under the leadership of the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP), have tirelessly fought against foreign plots and domestic deviationist dangers. In this fight they found loyal friends and devoted comrades in socialist countries, including the CSSR, who have granted them noble support and assistance.

Our people, fighting against the inherited backwardness and difficulties, and struggling against the complications of the new progressive construction work, have definitely linked their fate to the road of socialist orientation and to the fight against imperialism, reaction, Zionism, and racism.

Our party judges that our success in building a progressive society in democratic Yemen considerably depends on our ability to rectify the mistakes of the past, develop a large number of creative forces, and use them to vigorously promote our progressive national and humane scientific and cultural advancement. This success also depends on our resolute adherence to the principle of international solidarity and on our unambiguous commitment to the side of the world forces of socialism, democracy, national liberation, and peace.

Our YSP has adopted a progressive, mature stand on the issues of the revolution. The all-national party conference which convened in the middle of June 1987 adopted a theoretical document on this matter. The basic tasks were clearly defined, and have since become the object of everyday work for party officials and the people's masses; the same applies to the consolidation and intensification of the party's leading role in the state and in society, and to the consolidation of class and ideological stands and principles of life inside the party.

Today, we see ourselves confronted by two great tasks: the task of development and the task of democratization.

Our party, esteemed Comrade Milos Jakes, is of the opinion that the accomplishment of these two tasks is closely bound to rectification of the economic policy as pursued by the left-wing adventurers and right-wing opportunists. It is necessary to overcome the disruptions which have led in practice to mistakes that were all but fatal, since the hostile forces strove to push our country into the blind alley of an economic crisis, to isolate the party, and then to complete the encirclement of our progressive system and strangle it.

In terms of the way in which they are currently being carried out, the economic measures adopted by the leadership of our party are opening new horizons for our economic growth and are again enabling us to concentrate our national energy, frozen by the preceding erroneous economic practices, on achieving economic growth and on renewing the revolutionary social ties in the current period, so that the allied social forces formerly crippled by the left- and right-wing opportunist policy would again be able to play their historic role.

We in the YSP leadership judge that this economic reform will not become a reality if we fail to create political horizons for political reforms, oriented toward broader democratization, toward strengthening the role of the working people, protecting the citizens' political and human rights, and overcoming formalism in the activities of trade unions and mass organizations, i.e. toward overcoming both the difficulties inherited from the past and the present complications. These goals must be reached by expanding the social mass foundations of our national democratic system. That is why we express our basic choice today by demanding more development and more democracy. Such is our road toward removing the inherited expressions of backwardness from our

material, cultural, and psychological foundations; and such is our weapon, which will help us to succeed in protecting our road from plots, dangers, and deviations.

Esteemed Comrade Jakes, esteemed guests, our country is located in a sensitive part of the world and our cause occupies an important place in the intricacies of the international situation and in the hazy atmosphere and tension. Taking into account the sensitivity of the situation, the policy of Democratic Yemen in the national and regional tension is aimed at enhancing the opportunities for peace, at peaceful cooperation, and at bilateral and multilateral cooperation for the benefit of the joint interests of the nations of the region. On the national scale, our national democratic system works toward reinforcing the stability of the policy of peaceful dialogue with the northern part of the Yemeni homeland and toward development.

In all our political steps we stress that Yemeni unity and the formation of a united Yemeni state can only be reached in this way, on the basis of the objectives of the Yemeni revolution and the agreements signed by the leading representatives of both parts of the country. However, the slogan of unity would become an empty cliche if we failed to establish the objective material foundations for it by means of a number of measures aimed at building a unified economic base for the united state, at unifying the mass and professional organizations engaged in spreading the national culture, and at creating further prerequisites on the basis of democracy and peaceful dialogue. Dialogue has already produced a number of important steps in this regard.

The most significant of them was the signing of an agreement on the joint production of crude oil and on the cancellation of restrictions to the free movement of Yemeni citizens in their homeland, its north and its south. We are now taking additional steps in accord with the leadership of the northern part of the Yemeni homeland. Our policy in the regional framework is at the same time aimed at enhancing the peaceful atmosphere among states in the region and at mutual understanding and constructive cooperation, instead of strife and the sowing of doubts and distrust. In this connection, we ascribe great significance to the efforts of the countries in the region to jointly guarantee the safety of the Red Sea for the adjoining states, without the danger posed by the presence of foreign military fleets, while ensuring free passage by the joint effort of Red Sea states.

The end of the war between Iraq and Iran has opened the way to a healthy peaceful atmosphere in the region, to tranquility instead of uncertainty, to the arrangement of relations between states in the region on the new foundations of peaceful understanding and fruitful cooperation, and to the employment of energy and potentials for the good of internal construction, for vitally important objectives.

However, the continued presence of NATO states' military vessels in the waters of the Persian Gulf maintains unrest and keeps alive the possibility of violent tension flaring up again. Their departure would safeguard peaceful passage through the Gulf and is an inevitable condition for ensuring peace in the area and for protecting the security, sovereignty, and stability of the countries of this region. At the same time, it is urgent that Iraq and Iran make practical and specific headway in their mutual negotiations and put a visible end to the tragedy that has lasted 8 years. Our country notes with satisfaction the relaxation of tension in the Horn of Africa and the orientation of the countries of that region toward peaceful dialogue and the solution of mutual disputes.

As far as the Middle East and Palestine, in particular, are concerned, Democratic Yemen fully supports the declaration of the Palestinian state and is of the opinion that the PLO's initiative that arose from the 19th session of the Palestine National Council created a realistic chance of a solution to the problem. The time has come for the international community to bring greater pressure to bear on Israel in order to force it to accept a peaceful solution through the convocation of an international conference on the Middle East, to be attended by all parties involved, including the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The issue cannot be resolved without recognizing the right to self-determination and to the creation of an independent Palestinian state on the soil of Palestine under the PLO's leadership. In this connection, it is essential to force Israel to stop interfering in the internal affairs of Lebanon, to withdraw its troops from there, and to leave the solution of the problems of that Arab country to its inhabitants so that the Lebanese people are ensured stability and the national unity of their country.

On the international scale, it is gratifying that the new political thinking in the foreign policy of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries has achieved a considerable degree of international detente and progress at talks on the relaxation of tension and has opened up the path to the fulfillment of mankind's great dream—the liberation of human life from the threat of destruction. In this connection, we reiterate our full support for the constructive initiatives of the Soviet Union and the socialist countries concerning the reduction of armed forces and the cessation of the arms race, initiatives which are aimed at a comprehensive international agreement on the elimination of nuclear, chemical, bacteriological, and other types of weapons. The direct consequences of this new political course in international relations have become reflected in the regional situation in many parts of the world. The peaceful solution of conflicts has become a characteristic feature of the new international situation. We endorse this direction and regard it as being a suitable road for establishing peace and stability in regions in which there is tension and where armed conflicts are a threat to life. At the same time, the prospects of peaceful detente

facilitate new attitudes to international problems which constitute a grave threat and are clawing their way to the surface in international relations.

One must also find a solution to the issue of the great indebtedness of the developing countries, strive for a new international economic order which would protect the rights of small countries to development and pave their way toward economic development, which would satisfy the needs of their people. We yearn for peace and stability, we yearn to have human lives freed from hunger, poverty, and disease. The prospect of peaceful international detente gives the developing and weak countries the hope that they will free themselves of economic crises, poverty, and disease, and that a new economic order will come into being, an order corresponding to their need to accelerate the pace of development in peace, which will make it possible to raise their populations' standard of living.

Also connected to all this is mankind's liberation from the vestiges of the shameful period of racial discrimination and hated colonialism. In this connection, Democratic Yemen condemns the racist regime of the Republic of South Africa and calls on the international community to do its moral duty and put an end to racial discrimination in that part of the world, and speedily grant national independence to Namibia. We also support the Namibian people's struggle for freedom and independence under the leadership of the South-West African People's Organization. We received with pleasure the results of the quadripartite talks between Cuba, Angola, the United States, and the Republic of South Africa, and we regard the signing of the peace agreement in that region and the accelerated independence for Namibia as the latest successful step to peace in the region.

As regards the issue of Afghanistan, our country supports the peace initiatives of the Afghan Government that are aimed at a peaceful solution. The Geneva agreements constitute a firm foundation for settling the situation around Afghanistan by peaceful means. We call on all parties involved, who signed the agreements, to abide by them, observe them, and not violate them, so that the Afghan people can resolve their situation peacefully.

Regarding Latin America, our countries support the struggle of the nations of that continent against the demonstrations of arrogance by the American Administration, and against its hegemonism and big-power haughtiness to the detriment of the nations in the region.

Although the contemporary international situation encourages optimism, one must nevertheless continue to fight against the continuing policy of the imperialist circles, which have not abandoned their old objectives, even though they have been forced to make partial concessions on this or that issue.

Esteemed Comrade Milos Jakes, esteemed Comrades; in conclusion permit me again to thank you for the opportunity to conduct constructive talks with you. I thank you once more for the very cordial reception in your friendly country, and wish you much success. I also wish the relations between our parties and the people of our countries to develop and flourish.

And to you, personally, esteemed Comrade Jakes, and to all of you, Comrades, I wish robust health and much success.

Permit me to toast the health of Comrade Milos Jakes, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary, and the health of all other comrades.

I toast the strong comradely relations between our two parties and the people of our countries!

To peace for all mankind, to progress and prosperity!

## Signs Joint Communique, Returns

*EA2101182589 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0330 GMT 20 Jan 89*

[Excerpts] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, returned home last night from Prague at the head of a party and government delegation. [passage omitted]

A joint communique was issued at the end of the visit. It pointed out that the two sides held talks and reviewed bilateral relations and international issues. Each side briefed the other on the conditions and achievements in each of the two friendly countries.

The communique said that when discussing bilateral relations, the two sides expressed satisfaction at the mutual cooperation and the traditional friendly relations existing on the basis of the treaty of friendship anud cooperation between the PDRY and the CSSR. It said that these relations are successfully developing and strengthening in various fields. They expressed their desire to develop the various aspects of those relations and to look for suitable new forms of economic cooperation.

During their review of the current international situation, the two sides expressed satisfaction at the positive changes which have taken place in the world recently as a result of the peace policy of the Soviet Union and the other socialist states and the fact that new political thinking has begun to impose itself in international relations.

They stressed the importance of the new concepts in resolving contemporary world issues, as set out by Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev in his speech to the 46th session

of the UN General Assembly. In that speech, he presented a number of tangible proposals which constitute a living embodiment of this new thinking, particularly the Soviet Union's unilateral decision to reduce its conventional forces.

During the two sides' evaluation of the Middle East situation, 'Ali Salim al-Bid and Milos Jakes expressed solidarity with the uprising of the Palestinian people and their struggle for national liberation, led by the PLO. They resolutely condemned the repressive terrorist practices of the Israeli authorities against the peaceful inhabitants in the occupeid Arab territories. They affirmed that the most important condition for finding a comprehensive and just settlement in the Middle East is the complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from Palestinian and Arab territories occupied in 1967 and ensuring the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to return, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent national state.

Both sides expressed support for the resolutions of the PNC meeting in Algiers on 15 November 1988, and their recognition of the declaration setting up an independent Palestinian state. They regard this as an important step toward self-determination by the Palestinian people. They stressed the need to hold an international conference on peace in the Middle East under the auspices of the United Nations, to be attended by the permanent members of the Security Council and all parties concerned, including the PLO, as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The Yemen and Czechoslovak sides welcomed the end of the war between Iraq and Iran and the peaceful discussions taking place between the two countries under the auspices of the UN secretary general. They appealed to both sides to take practical steps to implement Security Council Resolution No 598 in order to achieve just and permanent peace between them. They also demanded an end to the imperialist military presence in the Gulf in its various forms, in order to reinforce security and peace in the region.

They condemned the U.S. acts of aggression and provocations against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, particularly the downing of two Libyan aircraft by the U.S. 6th Fleet, close to Libyan shores. They support the proposals for transforming the Mediterranean basin into a zone of security, peace and cooperation.

Referring to the Afghan issue, the two sides praised the signing of the Geneva agreements on a political settlement. They highly appreciated the constructive stands and initiatives of the Soviet and Afghan Governments. They ask all the partiess to commit themselves to implementing those agreements for the sake of establishing peace in Afghanistan.

Evaluating conditions on the African Continent, the two sides welcomed the signing of the recent agreements on a peaceful settlement in Southern Africa. They highly appreciated the constructive stand of the Cuban and Angolan Governments which enabled these arguments to be reached. They expressed their conviction that their implementation opens the way to Namibia's independence. In this connection, they affirmed that a final solution to the problems in South Africa requires the elimination of the apartheid system. They also stressed firm solidarity with the people of Namibia, led by their sole legitimate representative, the South-West African People's Organization, and with all the strugglers against apartheid in South Africa, led by the African National Congress.

**KUNA on Release of Sick, Wounded Iranians**
*LD2301133889 Kuwait KUNA in English 1206 GMT 23 Jan 89*

[Text] Geneva, Jan 23 (KUNA)—A group of 131 mainly sick and wounded Iranian prisoners-of-war Monday left Baghdad for Tehran on a jet chartered by the International Committee of the Red Cross, in line with a unilateral move by the Iraqi authorities to free 255 war-wounded prisoners.

An ICRC spokeswoman in Geneva said that the plane left Baghdad at 0820 GMT Monday morning, and that it was expected a second mercy flight would be made on Tuesday carrying the remainder.

Diplomatic sources said that Iran had told the ICRC that it would not be responding to the Iraqi goodwill gesture by releasing any Iraqi prisoners at this stage, although the families of wounded Iraqi POW's had some hopes that a limited repatriation might be made to mark the 10th anniversary of the revolution in Iran.

In early December Iran broke off an exchange of sick and wounded prisoners after only 155 of the 1,150 Iraqis due to be freed were presented to ICRC officials.

Iraq, which during that exchange had handed over 56 Iranians, subsequently decided not to release any more, until President Saddam Husayn two weeks ago announced that he would allow 255 to go home.

Since the start of the Gulf conflict, 825 aged, sick and wounded Iranians, including those on the flight today, have been freed, as well as 895 Iraqis.

The Iraqi Government has said that it is ready to hand over all 30,000 Iranians it holds if Iran repatriates the 70,000 Iraqi POW's it has.

However, Iran says that such an exchange can only be made when Iraq withdraws from Iranian territory, and within the framework of peace negotiations aimed at the implementation of Resolution 598.

**Saddam Husayn Returns Home From YAR Visit**
*JN2201165589 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1540 GMT 22 Jan 89*

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Jan (INA)—President Saddam Husayn returned here today concluding a 2-day visit to the YAR.

**Ramadan Leaves for Italy on Official Visit**
*JN2401135389 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1250 GMT 24 Jan 89*

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Jan (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, left Baghdad for Rome today heading a delegation on an official visit to Italy.

In a statement to INA, he said he will hold talks with Italian officials on economic and trade relations and the possibility of opening new horizons for cooperation appropriate for the circumstances of the new stage.

He said he will inform Italian officials of the political developments of the Iraq-Iran war and emphasize Iraq's adherence to its legitimate rights, which it has defended for 8 years, making dear sacrifices. He stressed the importance of moves by the world community to punish Iran for its violation of international charters, laws, and norms concerning its handling of Iraqi POW's.

The delegation accompanying Ramadan comprises Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Muhammad Mahdi Salih, minister of trade; and the under secretary of the Foreign Ministry.

**Dailies Renew Readiness To Resume Peace Talks**
*JN2401104389 Baghdad INA in English 1015 GMT 24 Jan 89*

[Text] Baghdad, Jan. 24, INA—AL-THAWRAH daily of Baghdad confirmed that Iraq is adhering to comprehensive implementation of the international Resolution 598 according to its sequential order.

In an editorial today the paper said on the occasion of the tour by Mr. Jan Eliasson, representative of the UN secretary-general, Iraq renews its readiness to negotiations.

It added that the world realises, with thousands of indications, that Iraq does not want even a handbreadth of Iran's territories and that its sublime and permanent goal is the peace which was Iraq's slogan throughout the years of the war and today it is a title of Iraq's victory.

The newspaper clarified that Iran's government was the only exceptional party in this world because it considered peace as poison and defeat.

It confirmed that Iran's attitude towards Resolution No 598 and the negotiations was a stance of a party looking for outlets to flee from the commitments because it does not possess the dare of admitting failure of its idea and pursuit.

It pointed out that Tehran regime thinks it has a new card to impede the negotiations and evade them. So it demands to separate the withdrawal from negotiations, depending on justifications that have no relation to international law. It also said that those justifications reflected Tehran rulers' impasse as they reflected adherence of those rulers to their idea which is hostile to the international law.

The newspaper stressed that separating the withdrawal from the negotiations and the multi-formed escape from comprehensive, complete and sequential application of the articles of 598 Resolution would achieve for the Iranian regime two aims at the same time, namely, the escape from admission of the military defeat by alleging

that it did not lose the war which it had started and from the admission of the failure of the aggressive idea by claiming that the war experiment was not an end to the idea and is now searching for new circumstances and new forms for its backward aggressive practices.

AL-JUMHURIYAH daily of Baghdad said that Iran was demanded to prove the sincere desire for peace as it did not accept the Resolution No. 598 but after one year on its issuance. Moreover it did not accept it but forced to do so and had announced its acceptance and described it as taking poison.

In an editorial published here today the newspaper said that Iraq was not in need to prove genuine intention and desire for peace. It had called for peace since the beginning of the war and kept on clinging to this call in all its stages. Iraq had accepted the Resolution No 598 since its issuance and did not retract from that agreement despite the sweeping victory it had achieved over Iran.

It confirmed that Iraq was fully prepared to resume the negotiations with no hesitation and it did not have any preconditions except the good intention by the other party.

The paper called on Iran rulers to reconsider their stances and get rid of their sterile and twisted ways that they followed in the negotiations and think of the war lessons and desire of the region's peoples for peace and to consider peace, as we do, a victory for the two parties.

## Paper Denies Flexibility on Shatt al-'Arab

*JN2601081189 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0608 GMT 27 Jan 89*

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Jan (INA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH has refuted allegations published in THE NEW YORK TIMES to the effect that Iraq has shown a flexible stand on the dispute over Shatt al-'Arab, which encouraged the UN secretary general to dispatch his envoy to Tehran and Baghdad to resume negotiations. In a comment published today, the paper affirms that these allegations are fabricated and untrue.

AL-THAWRAH says: Iraq's stand has been and continues to be unchanged; namely, Iraq does not covet Iran's sovereignty and its rights. Iraq clearly and firmly rejects that Iran achieves any ambitions at the expense of Iraq's rights and sovereignty. The paper adds: Therefore, Iraq maintains its consistent stand on the Shatt al-'Arab issue. Shatt al-'Arab should be cleared so it will be fit for shipping as part of the cease-fire process and as part of the requirements of equal exploitation of cease-fire at sea.

THE NEW YORK TIMES said the United Nations received a report from a Western European state to the effect that Iraq had shown a flexible stand on the dispute over Shatt al-'Arab.

## AL-JUMHURIYAH Cited on Iran's 'New Tone'

*JN2601115489 Baghdad INA in English 1050 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] Baghdad, Jan. 26, INA—AL-JUMHURIYAH daily of Baghdad said in its editorial for today the new tone repeated by the Iranian regime in these days about the negotiations and describing them as sterile sufficiently indicated its ill intentions towards the process of peace because it is associated with fluctuated stands and unmasked extortionist attempts and threats.

The newspaper confirmed what Iraq has announced repeatedly that the sole means of solving the problems between the two countries was the direct negotiations.

In the light of that, the paper called on the Iranian regime to choose one of two options to carry out the Resolution 598, namely, implementing it according to sequential order of its articles or agreeing on carrying it out with all its articles as a whole.

The newspaper, in its editorial, stressed the mission of the UN Secretary General's Representative Jan Eliasson in Tehran and Baghdad, by saying that Iraq would keep on refusing completely the style of portioning and selectivity and skipping from one point to another in dealing with text of Resolution 598 and its spirit, clarifying that Iraq's attitude was firm and represented by its goal of reaching an agreement of comprehensive and durable peace.

The paper said that if Tehran's regime wanted to implement the U.N. Security Council resolution according to the sequence of its operative articles, it must agree to abide by ceasefire in the air, on land and at sea according to documented arrangements and rules and to stop threatening to search the Iraqi ships sailing through the international waters in the Arab Gulf. The daily stressed that this policy contradicts the international law.

The paper said that the Iranian side must agree to clear the Shatt al-'Arab waterway by the United Nations regardless of its belonging because this is one of Iraq's national rights.

AL-JUMHURIYAH daily said that the Iranian regime must start immediately to exchange the prisoners of war accoridng to Article No. 118 of the Geneva 3rd Convention of 1949.

The paper went on to say that Iraq will strongly resist any attempts by the Iranian regime to benefit from the privileges of ceasefire or any act to gain cards in which it presses Iraq to obtain illegitimate gains from it later in the negotiations.

The newspaper welcomed Mr. Jan Eliasson who will start his visit to Baghdad tomorrow and wished him all success in his mission. It stressed, at the conclusion of its article, Iraq's sincere desire to establish peace and Iraq's keenness to implement the Resolution No. 598 and to reach a comprehensive, permanent and just peace treaty to be a new basis for relations between the two countries.

## Shamir Denies Knowledge of Superpower Peace Plan

*TA2601083089 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 26 Jan 89 pp 1, 13*

[Report by London correspondent Jerry Lewis, political correspondent Yohanan Lahav, Washington correspondent Erol Guiney, and Dani Kipper]

[Excerpts] Both Jerusalem and Washington last night denied the report that the United States and the USSR have reached an agreement on a "secret peace plan" for the Middle East. [passage omitted]

The main point in the plan: In the spring of 1990, an international conference that will lead to the establishment of a Palestinian state within the framework of a confederation with Jordan will be convened under UN auspices.

British Independent Television, which reported the secret plan yesterday, also broadcast an interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. According to the broadcast, Israeli leaders know the main points of the secret superpower plan, although it will formally be presented to Prime Minister Shamir during his Washington visit in March.

Avi Pazner, the prime minister's media adviser, last night flatly denied that Israel had any knowledge of such a plan: "We know nothing about such a plan, and nobody spoke to the prime minister about such ideas, neither U.S. Administration officials nor the British television correspondent who interviewed him 10 days ago."

Pazner stressed: "Not only did Shamir not approve, even through hints, anything that was broadcast on British television last night, but he was not even asked about it. The prime minister does not know of any plan such as that mentioned on British television." [passage omitted]

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said last night at the opening of the Likud campaign for the Jerusalem municipal elections that there will be no negotiations with the PLO and no Palestinian state. "Day after day we hear statements on the subject from different parts of the world. Are they not sick of repeating these declarations all the time? Neither of the two things will ever happen," Shamir said. [passage omitted]

## Shamir Explains Policy on Mideast Talks

*PM2601121189 London ITV Television Network in English 1900 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by foreign affairs correspondent David Smith in Jerusalem, monitored in progress in the framework of the Channel 4 "News" program; no date given—recorded]

[Text] [Smith] So how does Shamir read the mood of his people? That was the first question we put to him.

[Shamir] We prefer always negotiations, and this is a national consensus. There is nobody among us who refuses negotiations. The Arabs, they have always refused negotiations.

[Smith] Let's look at what the Soviets and the Americans have in mind. Do you now accept the idea of an international conference under UN auspices?

[Shamir] We don't need it. We don't need any international conference. We need a direct negotiation between us and the Arabs. We don't need any mediators. It will be useless.

[Smith] But do you see a role for the United Nations?

[Shamir] Maybe the general secretary of the United Nations could play a certain role, a formal role, in order to convene such negotiations but without being involved in the substance of the negotiations—a kind of a chairman or so, a formal role.

[Smith] What about the Soviets? Will you accept now that they have a role in this?

[Shamir] You know, we have not, we have not to look for foreign factors to bring some solutions. First of all, the Soviets want to play any role. They have to renew their normal relations with us—it's clear. We cannot work together unless we have normal relations. But it's less important than the readiness of the parties themselves, the parties to the conflict, to negotiate between them.

[Smith] If that's the case, what sort of forum are you ready to accept?

[Shamir] Well, direct negotiations. Let us meet, face to face, and try and start the negotiations.

[Smith] The superpowers are talking about an international conference by the spring of 1990. Do you believe that's feasible?

[Shamir] I think it's feasible. It depends only on the readiness and the decision of the Arab countries. We are ready to negotiate with them. Why not?

[Smith] So Shamir does accept the UN. He accepts the Soviets, however reluctantly, and the timetable set by the superpowers. But what about the new burning issue in Israeli life—talking to the PLO? For so long Shamir has said, "No, never ever." Today, his language is more muted. Who's going to represent the Palestinians in your scheme of things?

[Shamir] Because of the existence of the PLO, it's now a complicated problem. It's complex because we don't think that we will be able to negotiate with the PLO because this is an organization—a terrorist organization—that is not interested in any peace with us.

[Smith] So who in the end are you going to talk to—if it's not going to be the PLO...

[Shamir, interrupting] No, we are, we are very willing to talk with the Palestinians...

[Smith, interrupting] From the occupied territories?

[Shamir] ...with the Palestinians living under our rule.

[Smith] Would you hold elections for them to elect their, their people?

[Shamir] It's not a question of elections. Elections could also be a result of negotiations. First of all, we have to negotiate.

[Smith] What's going to happen if the superpowers apply serious pressure on you?

[Shamir] You cannot get anything from the Jewish people by pressure.

[Smith] But can you continue...

[Shamir, interrupting] ...by violence.

[Smith] But can you continue to live in isolation from what the rest of the world is saying?

[Shamir] I don't think we will be isolated. I don't think, and we don't feel, any threats. We have to be in peace with our conscience. We will never accept, you know, what Europeans will decide or what the United Nations will decide about it—or even the United States. Any solution has to be a result of negotiations.

[Smith] It's too early to talk of a new Yitzhaq Shamir. But time and again, this man has confounded expectations. He's astute, he's cunning. Shamir sees where the superpowers are heading, and he senses that Israel might make a better deal now than sit out years of an uprising that could make the country an international pariah.

[Shamir] I'm ready, I'm ready for any discussion.

[Smith] So you do have an open mind?

[Shamir] Sure. What do you think?

[Smith] Because, you know, a lot of people think that Yitzhaq Shamir is always saying "No, no, no."

[Shamir] No, no, no. Nobody says it now. If he says it, he knows that it's only a superficial formula. They know that I am open for any discussion, but all of them, and all of us know what is our goal. And our goal is peace.

## Tabah Talks 'Deadlocked' on Continuation Formula

*TA2601060089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] The Tabah talks are deadlocked. As of late last night, no formula could be found to enable the continuation of talks. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that there is no direct contact between the two delegations, and all necessary contacts are being held through the Americans.

Last night, the delegation heads held telephone consultations with their respective foreign ministers. The Egyptians are ready to launch parallel negotiations on all the controversial points, including access arrangements, property ownership within the enclave, and border demarcation. Israel wishes to begin by negotiating the complex issues, such as access and property ownership, and to conclude the entire negotiation proceedings with border demarcation.

## Meeting Ends 'Deadlock'

*TA2601094389 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0830 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Telephone report by correspondent in Tabah Natan Gutman]

[Text] The delegations of Israel, Egypt, and the United States held a three-way meeting this morning, ending the deadlock which halted the negotiations.

A short while ago, the Israeli delegation confirmed that an agreement has been reached according to which three work groups were established. The first group, which will deal with access to Tabah, will be headed by Yitzhaq Li'or, Foreign Ministry deputy director general for the Middle East, and by [name indistinct] from Egypt.

The second committee will deal with financial arrangements and will be headed by Accountant General Arye Sher and by Foreign Ministry legal adviser Robbie Sabel. Egypt will be represented by Ibrahim Yusri, the Egyptian Foreign Ministry legal adviser.

The third committee, which will hold several brief meetings, will be represented by two military liaison units. The Israeli representation is headed by Brigadier General Hayim Yifrah and the Egyptian by General Al-Shama'.

The groups will be responsible for establishing the technical aspects of and the issues on their agenda.

At 1230 today the Israeli delegation will reconvene to brief delegation head Re'uven Merhav, Foreign Ministry director general, on the progress the work groups will

have made until that point. At 1300, the senior officials of the Israeli, Egyptian, and U.S. delegations will meet to resume the discussions and to review the agreements that have been achieved.

Dr Nabil al-'Arabi, head of the Egyptian delegation, earlier addressed the issue of implementing Egyptian sovereignty over Tabah on 29 January.

From Egypt's point of view, the implementation of sovereignty begins on 29 January 1989, says Al-'Arabi. This is not an ultimatum, because the matter of sovereignty was decided by the arbitration team, whose decision is clear. There is no Israeli sovereignty involved.

Dr Along Li'el, Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman, says: After we see what progress is made, we will decide whether there is anything to discuss. Dr Li'el further says that in any event, the Egyptians have posed no ultimatums.

### Shamir: Bush Spoke 'Words of Friendship'

*TA2601101689 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 26 Jan 89 p 1*

[ITIM Report]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told a gathering of Likud activists at a Jerusalem municipal election campaign last night that he had a telephone conversation with U.S. President George Bush.

"I received a telephone call from Bush and heard words of friendship in the traditional spirit, which has already been institutionalized. He spoke about friendship and cooperation between the United States and Israel," Shamir said.

He said that differences of opinion should not disturb the good and friendly relations between the two countries. Even between close friends, such as the members of NATO, there are differences. [passage omitted]

### Arab States' Non-Conventional Weapons Noted

*TA2501192789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] The commander of Israel's air defense forces says Israel has the capability to deal with Arab biological and chemical weapon systems even before they reach Israel. Talking to reporters on a tour of the Air Defense Command, Brigadier General Uri Ram said Israel will not be passive to the threat. More from reporter Alan Ben-'Ami:

[Begin recording] [Ben-'Ami] The senior air force intelligence officer says Syria already has its Scud-B surface-to-surface missiles equipped with chemical warheads, while Iraq is working to adapt the chemical warheads used by its Air Force and artillery in the Gulf war, so that they can be delivered by long-range missiles. The officer said that Iraq is also believed to be working hard to develop biological warfare capability—this, in addition to the Libyans, who have been building their own production plant at Rabitah. Brig Gen Uri Ram, who commands Israel's air defense forces, says that Israel, however, can counter the threat.

[Ram] We are not just another country that can accept this type of harm being done to us. So, first of all, I guess that all the states that have these types of weapons and are maybe willing to use them also know that we will not take it easily, that we will do something about it. And, the price for using this type of systems is a means of accelerating the situation.

The second thing is we can use systems in order to counter it only when it is on a trail to us, towards Israel, in the air. [sentence as heard]

[Ben-'Ami] Referring to recent reports that the Libyans are developing air refueling capabilities for their planes which could allow them to reach targets in Israel, Brig Gen Ram says that whatever the Libyan capability may really be, it poses a potential which the Israeli air force must also take into account in its planning. [end recording]

### Agricultural Cooperation With Greece Severed

*TA2601060389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] Agriculture Minister Avraham Katz-'Oz has broken off agricultural cooperation between Israel and Greece. Our reporter says the minister ordered the move following recent Greek political moves, viewed to be anti-Israel.

### Knowledge of Indian Visa Office Denied

*TA2501194389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] The Foreign Ministry spokesman says his office does not know of any Indian intention to open a visa office in Israel. According to our reporter, India informed B'nai B'rith leaders in the United States and a group of Indian newsmen now visiting Israel about such an intention.

### Weizman Urges Shamir, Arens To Talk to PLO

*TA2601095789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Interview with Science and Development Minister 'Ezer Weizman by political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami; date, place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Ben-'Ami] Minister Weizman, you said in the Inner Cabinet that a policy should be formulated that would include a peace plan based on talks with an acceptable partner. That partner, in your opinion, is the PLO.

[Weizman] I will not be the one to report on what went on in the Inner Cabinet. If you have someone leaking information to you, you have my blessing.

We are now 13 months into the intifadah [uprising]. We have reached a point where our economy is suffering, tourism is facing a crisis, our international standing is worse than in the past, our internal position is worse than in the past, the IDF finds itself in a dilemma, and the ministers of the State of Israel are busy deliberating between plastic and rubber bullets at a range of 50 or 30 meters. In 2 months, it will be 10 years since the peace agreement with Egypt was signed, which was based and contingent upon solution of the Palestinian problem. At this point, I will get into a discussion of whose fault it is that so little has been achieved during the 10 years.

The said peace agreement is based on Resolution 242, which talks about giving back territories—not all of them, merely 2 dunams. [sentence as heard] When we wish to solve a problem such as the intifadah, we must look at it from a political viewpoint, as we have the many confrontations we faced in the past 40 years; however, all the solutions we achieved during those 40 years—whether they were interim agreements, a cease-fire, or a peace agreement—were made through negotiations with elements that have the authority to make decisions. In other words, we must find a body that has the authority to clinch a deal. Such a body will not be found in Shu'fat, Ramallah, Janin, Khan Yunus, or Dayr al-Balah.

You will find a partner only in a body that is acceptable to the residents of the territories—Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip—and to the Palestinians of the world. Nowadays, the only such body is the PLO. It is a fact that the PLO, under the leadership of Yasir 'Arafat, is the only element determining whether an East Jerusalem store is opened or closed, whether a stone is thrown in Ramallah, whether firearms are or are not used in Gaza. At the moment, it may sound odd or unpleasant, but I hope that the prime minister and the foreign minister—both of whom have been appraised of my stand—will surpass themselves by making a historic move and saying: We, the Government of Israel, are ready to sit down with the PLO and clinch a deal.

[Ben-'Ami] Nevertheless, can you understand the refusal of the prime minister and foreign minister to think about the possibility of a dialogue with the PLO, because they believe the PLO is interested in a Palestinian state? Furthermore, the PLO even objects to the first clause of Rabin's plan, calling for a halt to the intifadah for at least 3 to 6 months.

[Weizman] Look, with all due respect to my good friend Yitzhaq Rabin, I cannot address myself to his plan, because it was not accepted by the prime minister. What I suggest is that the prime minister and the foreign minister submit a plan. It is the foreign minister's job to do so. They should sit down to talk with the PLO without preconditions, and if they do not like the talks, they do not have to continue them. I am not saying this out of a position of weakness, but out of the knowledge that Israel has the IDF behind it. The IDF, with its F-16's and F-15's, with a large number of tanks, and with a good navy, faces the stone and firebomb thrower. A person throwing stones does so because he has no tanks or planes. What are we afraid of, in this case? Let us enter negotiations. We will try to make them give in, they will try to make us give in, and eventually we may reach an agreement. If we do not, we will say goodbye and go our separate ways.

[Ben-'Ami] You are calling on the government to give up many principles adopted by past governments, including that governing negotiations with the PLO. In exchange for this, do you not demand some signal from the PLO?

[Weizman] I will not talk for or against the PLO, but the PLO has given as many signals as a traffic light. It has signaled acknowledgment of Resolutions 242 and 338. The Americans, who had exactly the same attitude to the PLO, have changed their stand, and the State Department has instructed its ambassador in Tunis to sit down and talk with PLO representatives. The British foreign minister has also held talks with them.

We cannot continue saying forever that the whole world is crooked, and we are the only decent people. I am not saying that the whole world is decent, either, but in the 41st year of the State of Israel's sovereign existence, after some 100 years of Zionism, and after at least seven wars, the time has come for the Israeli leadership to make a move that may be difficult and extraordinary, but this is what leadership is all about.

## 'Outside Elements' Responsible for Plan Rejection

*TA2601073089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Report on interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by military affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Menashe] The defense minister is reiterating the main points of his phased plan, which aims to promote the process toward a political solution in the territories: restoring quiet, elections, a transition period of self-government for the residents in the territories, and, finally, a permanent settlement.

[Rabin] I believe in this position, even though it appears to have been rejected by the residents of the territories. I have patience and I am convinced that the Arab side's rejection of the plan was caused by outside elements. Where the rejection was expressed by Arabs of the territories, that rejection was generated by pressure from outside elements. This position is certain to be evaluated under new criteria in the future.

[Menashe] Rabin emphasizes that the Israeli Cabinet must soon hold a serious political debate to decide on its direction.

[Rabin] Reality demands that we determine our political stance and decide what direction Israel will take. I believe such a debate will indeed take place.

[Menashe] As for broadening the authority to fire plastic bullets, the defense minister says: There is not an ounce of truth in the claims that the orders are totally illegal. The instructions and orders have been examined by the military and judicial authorities, both throughout the years and in the last 2 weeks, before I approve them and before they are issued to the soldiers.

[Rabin] The legal probe of the issue was to provide support should someone sue the executors of these instructions in the high court. In such a case, the entire legal system would stand up to defend the issue.

[Menashe] If, as the chief of staff has said, there are no new instructions, why the need for further discussion of the instructions at the attorney general's office?

[Rabin] First of all, the instructions issued to the Army and the appendices to the existing instructions are legal. Certain changes have been made, such as the extension of the authority to use plastic bullets to include NCO's, in addition to the previously authorized officers.

The second point is that those authorized to fire plastic bullets may do so not only at stonethrowers caught in the act, but also if the perpetrator escapes from the scene. In that case, too, the authorized officers may fire at him in order to stop and detain, rather than punish. In this case, the firing is part of the procedure of detaining a suspect: a warning call, shooting in the air, and shooting at the feet. All these are aimed at apprehending the suspect.

A further point: Authorized personnel may also fire plastic bullets at persons erecting barricades that endanger traffic along main routes, if such persons are caught in the act.

## Al-Husayni Scheduled for Release Next Week

*TA2501173589 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1700 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] Here is a report that has just been received in the studio: Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has decided not to issue another administrative order extending the detention of Faysal al-Husayni, director of the Institute of Arab Studies in East Jerusalem. Our correspondent 'Amos Har'el reports that Al-Husayni, who has been in custody for approximately 1 year, will be released next week upon completing his current detention term.

## Four Editors Convicted of DFLP Membership

*TA2501100989 Tel Aviv IDF Radio Service in Hebrew 0930 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] The Jerusalem District Court today convicted the four editors of DEREKH HANITZOTZ of membership in Na'if Hawatimah's DFLP and of providing services to an illegal organization. The four—Ya'aqov Ben-Efrat, Roni Ben-Efrat, Mikhal Schwartz, and Asaf Adiv—signed a plea bargaining agreement with the Jerusalem district prosecutor in which they confessed to the charges. Our correspondent Mikha'el Birenhack reports from the courthouse:

The court approved the jail terms included in the plea bargaining agreement and handed down sentences on the four defendants. Ya'aqov Ben-Efrat was given a 30-month prison term and a 4-year suspended sentence; Mikhal Schwartz and Asaf Adiv were each given 18 months in prison and a 3-year suspended sentence; while Roni Ben-Efrat was given a 9-month term and will therefore be released today. All the accused have already served 9 months; therefore, this term will be reduced from their sentences.

The court ruling ends the DEREKH HANITZOTZ affair. The four expressed satisfaction with the outcome and said they would continue to act for peace and democracy, but did not say how they would do so. The four made a commitment not to violate state security for 3 years from the date of their release.

## Jewish Settlement Leaders End Hunger Strike

*TA2601061189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] The council heads from Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza have called off their hunger strike. They said there is no need to continue with the protest action, because the question of how to end the uprising in the territories is now being dealt with as a national priority.

## Further on Incidents, Casualties in Territories

### Riots in East Jerusalem

*TA2501154689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] In East Jerusalem this afternoon, a firebomb was thrown at a taxi near Rockefeller Museum. There were no casualties, and no damage was caused.

Our correspondent Moshe Nussbaum points out that several disturbances occurred in the Jerusalem area this afternoon. Six female students were arrested for setting up stone barriers in Shu'fat, in the northern part of the city. In the Shu'fat refugee camp, youngsters pelted policemen with stones. In an incident near Al-Maqasid Hospital in East Jerusalem, students blocked the road and threw empty bottles at policemen. A police unit dispersed the rioters with tear gas.

### 5 Wounded in Gaza Strip

*TA2501181689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] A Khan Yunus youth was wounded by plastic bullets when a riot was dispersed. Arab sources report that during the day four people were wounded in the Gaza Strip.

### 1 Killed by IDF Gunfire

*TA2601054189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] Near Qalqilyah last night, one Arab was killed and three others were wounded. The incident took place after a group of 10 local residents encountered an Army force who were searching for suspects from past disturbances in the area. The soldiers called on the 10 to stop, but according to Army sources, the members of the group started to run away. The soldiers first fired into the air and then towards the Palestinians. Four of the ten were hurt: one of them died later; the other three sustained serious, moderate, and light wounds respectively. During the course of the chase, six other residents were detained for investigation.

### House Demolished in Tulkarm

*TA2601095989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] Last night the security forces demolished a house and sealed another in Tulkarm. The houses belong to members of a squad uncovered some time ago, whose members threw Molotov cocktails at various targets, including an IDF patrol 4 months ago. This was reported by our correspondent Arye Gus. One of the group members was detained, and another is wanted by the police.

### Houses Demolished in 'Aqraba

*TA2601124189 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Excerpts] The security forces have uncovered a local 12-member squad in the village of 'Aqraba in Samaria. The members of this squad threw Molotov cocktails at Israeli vehicles traveling on the trans-Samaria road. This morning the IDF tore down the houses of four of the squad members and sealed off another. [passage omitted]

A Molotov cocktail was thrown at an IDF patrol in Ramallah this morning. Our soldiers did not sustain any casualties, and the security forces began searches.

Aside from this incident, relative quiet has been maintained in Judaea and Samaria, and no extraordinary events have been recorded. The village of Hablah, near Qalqilyah, where a local youth was killed in a clash with an IDF force last night, remains under curfew. A curfew was also imposed on the nearby villages of Dhannabah and Kafr 'Atiyah and on the Tulkarm refugee camp.

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1200 GMT on 26 January reports that "this morning there were disturbances in the Gaza Strip. In one of the incidents, a girl was hit in the head in Bayt Hanun."]

### Jordan Reportedly Treating Palestinians 'Cruelly'

*TA2101111789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 21 Jan 89*

[Text] Underground reports published in Amman that have reached Israel state that the Jordanian authorities cruelly treat Palestinians residing in that country who have expressed sympathy with the uprising in the territories.

Our correspondent Yo'el Dar says that the reports from Jordan, published in Galilee newspapers in Arabic, state that over the past 5 weeks, women's demonstrations and students' and workers' gatherings were dispersed in Amman and other Jordanian cities. These were carried out by hired hoodlums armed with metal chains and plastic clubs. Many demonstrators were wounded and organizers were detained.

### Unemployment Rises 9.4 Percent in Dec

*TA2001083489 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 20 Jan 89 p 16*

[Report by Jeff Black]

[Text] The number of people unemployed six days or more last month rose a sharp 9.4 percent compared with November, numbering 35,389 people.

Employment Service figures published yesterday show that the number of jobseekers has remained at the recent high levels, with 59,686 people registering last month, compared with November's total of 60,349. In seasonally-adjusted figures, there was a 3 percent increase in December compared with the previous month.

There was no significant change in the number of jobs available at Employment Service bureaus (19,923 last month compared with 20,191 in November), but there was a 6.5 percent rise in the number of posts not filled, which totalled 5,031.

Some 3,312 people last month lost their rights to claim unemployment benefits after turning down suitable work, a 6 percent fall compared with November.

The Employment Service gave permits to 46,011 Palestinians from the territories to work inside the Green Line last month, an increase of nearly 1,000 over November. Alongside these workers, 1,800 South Lebanese workers and 3,600 foreign workers had work permits last month.

## AL-DUSTUR Interviews Foreign Minister

*JN2201105789 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 22 Jan 89 p 10*

[Interview with Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, by Muhammad al-Majali and published jointly with Saudi newspaper AL-JAZIRAH; date, place not given]

[Text] [Al-Majali] Coordination and discussion between His Majesty King Husayn and his brother His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, continues. Is there anything new on this subject?

[Al-Qasim] Actually, when we view the existing bilateral relations, we see that we are living the same situation, conscience, and goal which seeks to achieve more immunity, power, and prosperity for the Arab world. It is not strange that the continuing discussions between His Majesty King Husayn and his brother His Majesty King Fahd, custodian of the two holy mosques, are some of the essential, natural, and—God willing—continuing issues between them, because such a joint effort is the blessed effort which concentrates on serving the interests of the Arab and Islamic nation.

Soon, God willing, we will witness a meeting between the two monarchs for the benefit and strength of the Arabs. We cannot forget the continuous efforts of the fraternal Kingdom in supporting the Arab brothers, especially Jordan. We also appreciate the painstaking attempts of the fraternal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to prepare a positive atmosphere for the meetings between the Arab brothers to serve the interests of the nation. His Majesty King Husayn will soon visit his brother the custodian of the two holy mosques.

[Al-Majali] The past year witnessed numerous events. What is your evaluation of these events and their significance?

[Al-Qasim] Actually, the most important thing we witnessed in the past year is the effect of the uprising in the occupied Arab territories on the world. It reminded and drew the attention of the world to the necessity of concerning themselves and intensifying efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

It has also been the most important event since Israel occupied the Arab territories to this day. The effects of the uprising on the international community have been to move it and draw the attention of many to the fact that the situation in the region is not quiet, as some sides attempted to prove through international media.

The second important event during the past year was Jordan's historic decision made on 31 July, 1988, to disengage legal and administrative ties with the West Bank. This decision directed attention to the Palestine question so that the world would deal with whoever represents the Palestinian rights in the Palestine question. Therefore, Jordan contributed actively toward enhancing and highlighting the Palestinian personal identity. At the same time, Jordan affirmed that the sides which have a direct relationship to, and affect the course of peace in the Middle East should talk directly to the Palestinians.

Jordan was pleased at the historic resolution issued by the PNC in November 1988, which paved the way for eliminating any misunderstandings on the part of any side, that the Arabs do not want to establish a just and comprehensive peace in the region. The PLO's recognition of the Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 clearly finalized the extent of the comprehensive and positive Arab development toward reaching a just and comprehensive peaceful settlement in the region. We are now waiting for those sides, which used to always urge the concerned sides to negotiations on peace, to come forth and activate their effects on the side rejecting the international conference—that is Israel—to participate in the conference, which all countries of the world have accepted. This conference convenes upon invitation from the UN secretary general and with the presence of the five permanent members and all the Arab sides including the PLO. The latter should also participate on an equal footing with the other parties.

[Al-Majali] In light of the new factors in the Arab and international arena, do you expect the international conference to convene this year?

[Al-Qasim] Concentrated negotiations will undoubtedly take place within the next few weeks between the concerned countries. They will have to implement and apply the two Security Council resolutions. It is imperative that efforts should be comprehensive from all parties, whether European, Soviet, American, or Arab. There should also be continuity in action to holding the international conference.

[Al-Majali] What is the present picture of Jordanian-Palestinian cooperation in the realm of establishing peace? Is there an intention to form a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to participate in the international conference?

[Al-Qasim] As you know, when an agreement was reached between Jordan and the PLO in 1985 on joint Jordanian-Palestinian action, it was to help the PLO overcome U.S. obstacles which were placed as conditions for a start in dialogue and for Palestinian representation, whether with the United States or the presence of the PLO or someone to represent it in the international conference.

Ever since that time, there have been many changes in this agreement. There was the declaration of the independent Palestinian state which we recognized and supported. It might also be possible for the PLO to attend

the international conference due to the desire it has indicated on numerous occasions in the past to attend with an independent delegation. We support what the PLO wants in this realm. If it wishes to attend as an independent delegation, then this is its business. If, however, it has any ideas to propose, it could propose them on the level of the summit to coordinate the stands and Arab efforts toward the Arab nation's central cause.

[Al-Majali] What is your comment on the political initiative proposed by Israel's leaders represented by establishing a confederacy between Jordan, Palestine, and Israel?

[Al-Qasim] What Israel is proposing has nothing to do with the required solution to the Palestine question. What is required of Israel is that it withdraw from the territories it occupied in 1967. Then, it should give the Palestinians in their Palestinian state in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank the chance to decide what it is they want and what is best for them. When these steps are taken, we then enter into the real realm—the realm of peace in the region. At that point, any idea could be suggested. Its acceptance or rejection then depends on the extent of its usefulness to one or the other state. However, the basic issue is that confronting the facts demands that Israel submit to the international will. If it wants to live in peace and security, it has to evacuate the Palestinian territories it occupied in 1967. It should also give the Palestinian people a chance without affecting their decision on their right to self-determination. This is what we hope would happen. If Israel reaches this stage of conviction, a new age of peace will start which the people of this region are in dire need of.

[Al-Majali] What are the possibilities of holding the ordinary Arab summit in Riyadh? Have the obstacles in the way of this summit been removed? Do you think Egypt will be readmitted?

[Al-Qasim] I think the headquarters of the next summit will be in the fraternal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. There are continuous discussions and negotiations. I also believe that in the coming stage, there will be better possibilities of setting a date for this summit. There are also some positive indicators, which we, in Jordan, have felt through the spirit of cooperation and new solidarity. This was represented in the meetings of the Arab foreign ministers in Tunis and Paris where we discussed the united Arab stand in the Paris conference. There was also a united Arab stand to help Lebanon restore its normalcy. There was also a united Arab stand supportive of Libya, the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories, and the brave Palestinian decision made by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. We hope that all these positive indicators which have started to prevail over the spirit of the new joint Arab action would become more entrenched since this is in the interest of each of our states and the nation in general.

As for Egypt and its return to the Arab League, we find that the opportunities have become available and ready for such a condition.

[Al-Majali] What is the latest on the Jordanian leadership's efforts to strengthen Arab detente, especially realizing rapprochement between Damascus and Baghdad and between Damascus and Cairo?

[Al-Qasim] Actually, His Majesty King Husayn's efforts in this regard are continuing. I can say that through his visits to his Arab brothers and Saudi Arabia, his majesty identifies with joint Arab action. The Jordanian, Saudi, and Moroccan efforts must have a positive, effective role that will bring the Arab brothers closer in the Arab nation's interests and serve its ability to confront the political, economic, and cultural challenges of this age. There is no reason for further Arab dismemberment and there is no state in this age that can live in isolation from its brothers in such fields.

[Al-Majali] What is your assessment of the Jordanian efforts to support the peace march in the Middle East? Are there practical moves in this direction?

[Al-Qasim] You are perfectly aware of the Jordanian efforts over the past several years. Jordan is trying to activate many sides in order to reach a just and comprehensive solution in the region. For example, Europe's participation in the international conference is not new but has been the topic of discussion from the early seventies. Jordan's efforts were then directed toward the U.S. arena. We talked with the U.S. Administration and were able to realize progress when the United States admitted the need to convene an international conference for peace in the Middle East. Over the past several years, His Majesty King Husayn paid many working visits to the five permanent member-states of the UN Security Council. These efforts have borne fruit, now that it has become acceptable and certain that there can be no lasting and comprehensive solution in the region except through an international peace conference.

[Al-Majali] The media say that His Majesty King Husayn will visit the United States in late March to meet the new U.S. President George Bush and senior U.S. officials. Is this true? What are the aims of this visit?

[Al-Qasim] If this visit takes place it will be to exert further efforts to emphasize to the new U.S. Administration the need to make moves and use its influence to convene an international conference. Jordan's stand, adopted in 1967 when Jordan agreed to Resolution No 242, is now, in 1989, the unified stand of the Arabs, including the Palestinians. This leaves no reason for any side, including the U.S. circles, to doubt the Arab position. The Arab position has advanced and eased many problems in order to reach peace. The United States bears a certain responsiblity to make a serious, effective contribution toward convening this conference.

[Al-Majali] How do you view the current peace negotiations between Iraq and Iran, and how far have efforts reached to resume these negotiations?

[Al-Qasim] As you know, the Arab world, which supports the establishment of peace between fraternal Iraq and Iran, is a key factor. Jordan and the Arab brothers believe that it will be a very important development when the cease-fire between fraternal Iraq and Iran becomes a lasting peace between the two countries. The Arab states should contribute to achieving a joint stand for the sake of security and stability in the region. All the region's peoples are in need of security, noninterference in each other's affairs, and the creation of a new situation from which the region's peoples and states benefit.

[Al-Majali] In your capacity as deputy prime minister, how do you view the current economic situation and the Jordanian dinar in light of recent measures, and what about Arab aid to Jordan?

[Al-Qasim] I believe that this economic situation is prevailing throughout the entire region. The poor and the rich states in the region were affected by this situation. There were several factors that led to this problem. Of course, Jordan has set comprehensive development programs since 1979. Jordan relied on the Arab brothers' aid since the Baghdad summit. Several fields and resources were available to Jordan to increase its productive abilities and tangibly improve its people's conditions. There was a commitment to the Baghdad summit. However, not all of these commitments were met due to known and understood reasons. In this regard, I must say that the fraternal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was the only state which met all its commitments. We still believe that the fraternal Kingdom will be a support to Jordan in the future as it was in the past.

Jordan was affected due to the increase of its debts. The devaluation of the dinar will help tackle this situation. There are now opportunities—not available in the past—for Jordan to export to the outside world. The entire region has been affected. You can see the devaluation of currencies in several neighbouring states, oil-producing and nonoil-producing countries. This is expected. We consider it a kind of acclimatization to a new situation. I believe we are confronting this crisis correctly and frankly. We might need some time to overcome the sudden negative consequences we faced a few months ago. We hope that through continuous and persistent tackling of the crisis, we will be able to overcome it in the next 2 or 3 years.

[Al-Majali] Conducting parliamentary elections in Jordan has become certain. Within which framework will these elections be conducted, especially following the decision disengaging [ties with the West Bank]?

[Al-Qasim] The last parliamentary election law in Jordan was related to the West Bank territory. Following the disengagement decision and after clearly defining the citizen's rights in this country, the specialized ministerial committee has begun to amend this election law to take into account the new administrative divisions in the Kingdom, excluding the West Bank. The new divisions will pave the way for the sound representation of this country's sons.

[Al-Majali] What is the legal status of the Palestinian Embassy in Amman, considering that there is a joint decision on a confederation between Jordan and the PLO?

[Al-Qasim] The PLO has declared the establishment of an independent state, and there is a general Arab approach to recognize this state. The PLO has also decided to consider its offices in the Arab and friendly states as embassies. We support this appoach. Regarding the confederation, it is a state stemming from two existing independent states, each of which has its own geographic border, people, and executive authority, and exercises sovereignty over its territory.

### AL-SHIRA' on Securing Hostages' Release

*NC2601105189 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 23 Jan 89 p 9*

[Text] A well-informed source in West Beirut has indicated that consultations are underway among regional and internartional parties to achieve a happy ending to the issue of the foreign hostages being held in Lebanon.

During these consultations, a debate is taking place on whether the hostages should be released all at once or at intervals. Since the regional party which basically ordered the kidnapping is no longer fully capable of compelling the kidnappers to release their hostages, now that complications have developed in the relationship between this party and the kidnappers, this regional party's power over its tools in Lebanon is weakened.

However, the source believes that the concerted efforts of the regional and international parties are bound to push the kidnappers into a corner and leave them with only one option; namely, to release their hostages and end this issue for good.

### Irish Envoy Heads for Beirut on Hostage Mission

*NC2601072189 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] An Irish Foreign Ministry spokesman announced this morning that Patrick McCabe, the Irish ambassador in the Middle East, left Baghdad, where he is based, for Beirut last night to look into U.S. reports on the possible release of Irish hostage Brian Keenan. The Irish ambassador to Saudi Arabia telephoned Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' on this matter.

An informed source in Dublin said that Keenan's sister held talks—the substance of which is known—with Irish Foreign Ministry representatives yesterday afternoon.

### Diplomats Await Release

*LD2601133589 Tehran IRNA in English 1330 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] London, Jan. 26, IRNA—Irish and British diplomats are on alert in Beirut after unconfirmed reports of the imminent release of Brian Keenan and the possibility that John McCarthy may follow.

The Irish Foreign Ministry spokesman told IRNA Thursday that its accredited ambassador to Lebanon, Patrick McCabe, had been despatched to Beirut from his base in Baghdad to "follow up the story."

"All our diplomatic contacts in the area are alerted to it," he said, but added he was unable to assess the validity of the claim about Keenan's release that was reported in AL-HAYAT newspaper.

The spokesman further disclosed its accredited ambassador to Damascus, Declan Connelly, had flown in from his base in Riyadh and held talks with the Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' on Wednesday.

He said the envoy was staying in Damascus for the moment but did not know if he was hoping to see the Iranian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, who is expected to return to the Syrian capital Thursday.

Keenan worked as a lecturer at the American University in Beirut before he was kidnapped on April 11, 1986. He travelled on an Irish passport but also has British citizinship, coming from a Protestant family in Belfast, Northern Ireland, where he was born.

The British ambassador to Lebanon, Allan Ramsay, is also said to be keeping a vigil in West Beirut, but the Foreign Office in London could not say if Britain was more optismistic.

A ministry spokesman told IRNA the envoy was following up the report but that it was at this stage treated essentially as "another rumour".

His understanding from the claim was that the speculation was principally about Keenan but that British journalist McCarthy, also kidnapped in April 1986 after the U.S. bombing of Libya, might follow.

But the spokesman insisted the Foreign Office had "no collateral."

### UK Embassy on 'Alert'

*NC2601142389 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1405 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] Sources in the British Embassy in Lebanon expect the release of the British hostages today. The embassy has declared a state of alert to follow up the subject.

### Fadlallah Denies Hizballah Link To Hostages

*NC2601065589 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] In messages he sent to two U.S. groups working for the release of the hostages in Lebanon, Scholar Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah has said that he has tried on several occasions to obtain the release of foreign hostages in Lebanon but failed because of international complications. He denied that Hizballah has any connection with the detention of the hostages.

### Hizballah Reportedly Moves Hostage to Ba'labakk

*NC2601151989 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1502 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] Radio Free Lebanon has learned that elements from the Hizballah security organ have moved U.S. hostage Terry Anderson to a Hizballah center in the 'Ayn

al-Hawzah area in the Ba'labakk ridges. A man called Shaykh Nazih al-Haj Hasan, born in Shmistar in Ba'labakk Province, is in charge of the center.

The two detained Israeli soldiers have also been moved to the Janta area near Al-Nabi Shit township. Mustafa Mahmud Tulays from Brital Township is in charge of them. He is assisted by Hasan 'Abd al-Karim al-Saghir from Timmin al-Tahta Township.

The most prominent figure in charge of the hostages is Shaykh 'Abbas al-Musawi who resides in Ba'labakk. He is assisted in this by Hassan Hawl al-Laqis, the son of the owner of Al-Laqis center in Ba'labakk.

### Damascus Talks Focus on Col Higgins' Release

*NC2601151789 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1504 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] It has been learned that Colonel William Higgins is being held in the Hizballah-controlled Jabal Safi area. The same report says that the ongoing negotiations in Damascus are centered on one of the Amal Movement's demands and conditions: Higgins must be handed over to it in return for the movement lifting its siege of Iqlim al-Tuffah.

Other reports have indicated that Hizballah transferred Higgins to western Al-Biqa' on horseback.

Meanwhile, the Amal Movement command in the South has promised to give huge material aid and to reconstruct a number of villages under its control it Higgins is freed.

### Al-Husayn Leaves for Arab League Meetings in Tunis

*NC2601105689 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] Husayn al-Husayni, speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, left Beirut Airport for Paris a short time ago en route to Tunis.

Earlier this morning, Al-Husayni visited Shaykh Hasan Khalid, the mufti of the Republic. They discussed developments, especially those related to the Arab ministerial committee, and the subjects Al-Husayni will raise before this committee.

Al-Husayni also paid a similar visit to Rashid al-Sulh.

### Al-Huss Leaves for Talks

*NC2601120889 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Excerpt] Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni and Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss left Beirut for Tunis via Paris at noon today. They will attend the meetings of the seven-member Arab committee on the Lebanese issue toward the end of January. [passage omitted]

### Action by Arab League Seen as 'Positive Sign'

*NC2401180189 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 24 Jan 89*

[Excerpt] The Lebanese Forces Command Council has held its weekly meeting under the chairmanship of Dr Samir Ja'ja', during which various local and regional developments were discussed. At the conclusion of the meeting, the following statement was issued:

The Lebanese Forces [LF] are following with interest the Arab activity as represented by the meeting of the Arab League Council at the level of foreign ministers. The LF express satisfaction over the formation of a committee at this meeting, as well as the way it was formed, notably that its chairmanship was given to Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah, Kuwaiti foreign minister, who enjoys the members' complete trust and coordinates with them in a serious and responsible manner to settle the Lebanese crisis.

The LF value the positive stands adopted by numerous Arab countries, particularly the Iraqi stand, which has resulted in the transference of the Lebanese dossier to the halls of the Arab League, where it has become an Arab responsibility. This dossier had been monopolized earlier by Syria, a situation which went a long way toward complicating and exploiting the issue for many years.

The submission of the Lebanese issue to the Arab League forum is a positive sign in itself. The LF announce their willingness to respond to the Arab committee's efforts and to provide all that is bound to ensure the success of its tasks. [passage omitted]

### Shamir Inspects South; Visits Lahd in Marj 'Uyun

*NC2601104489 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has inspected the Lebanese South and visited Major General Antoine Lahd, commander of the South Lebanese Army, and his house in Marj 'Uyun. Strict security measures were enforced in the South and Israeli helicopters were seen flying over the area which Shamir inspected.

### Army Units Warned on Crossing Point Barricades

*NC2501104489 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] A military source has revealed that while the Army's 93d Battalion, and a team from the Army's engineering department were removing the earth barricades along the port crossing point this morning, the battalion commander received a telephone call from an official at the opposite end of the crossing point. This

official said that unless the bulldozer clearing the barricades stopped immediately, he would open fire on it. The battalion commander suspended work, on orders from the brigade commander.

It should be recalled that at approximately 1000 this morning, units from the Army's engineering department removed the earth barricade near the Fattal Building, to the east of the Port-Normandie crossing point. The units were about to remove the other barricade near the Syria and Lebanon Bank when they received the warning described.

### Army Roadblock on Beirut Green Line Removed

*NC2601083789 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] The army's roadblock near the military court building was removed this morning in implementation of an order by General Michel 'Awn, prime minister and army commander. The roadblock has been removed to facilitate the movement of deputies.

### 3 SLA Men Killed, 3 Injured in Mine Explosion

*NC2401155089 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 24 Jan 89*

[Text] Three South Lebanese Army troops were killed and three others were injured this morning when an antitank mine exploded on the Al-Qantarah-al-Shumariyah Road.

### More on Incident Involving UNIFIL Spokesman

*NC2501181689 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] According to a report we have received from the South, a South Lebanese Army member fired three shots in the air at noon today while the driver of the car in which UNIFIL Spokesman Timor Goksel was riding was trying to cross Al-Hamra' Bridge on the Mansur Road, on its way to Al-Naqurah.

It has been reported that the person who fired the shots had asked the driver of Goksel's car to wait before crossing the bridge, which was closed for some time.

### Amal-Hizballah Fighting Erupts Despite Cease-Fire

*NC2501181089 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Excerpts] The cease-fire agreement, which was announced in Damascus this morning following the discussions which Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati held there, has not been implemented. The security situation in Iqlim al-Tuffah witnessed the eruption of violent clashes between the Amal and Hizballah positions there.

According to a report from the South, the intensity of the clashes between Amal and Hizballah eased this afternoon. There was a violent exchange of artillery and rocket fire for about 1 hour this morning and shortly after noon. The Amal Movement said that Hizballah fighters in Jba' fired at one of its positions in Jba', wounding two Amal gunmen and a woman. [passage omitted]

For its part, Hizballah accused Amal of shelling its positions in Jba' and Jabal Safi at the rate of 10 shells per minute. Hizballah emphasized that it has not returned the fire and is abiding by the cease-fire agreement announced in Damascus.

### Clashes in Iqlim al-Tuffah

*NC2601100189 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] Clashes have been going on between the Amal Movement and Hizballah in Iqlim al-Tuffah since this morning. The clashes are concentrated in the areas of Jba', Kafr Fila, Jarju', 'Ayn Qana, 'Ayn Bu Siwar, and Jabal Safi. Automatic and medium-caliber weapons and rockets are being used.

### RFL Reports Suburb Clashes

*NC2601171789 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1709 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] We have just received a report from our correspondent saying that explosions are being heard in the southern suburb. Our correspondent reported that these are the result of renewed clashes between Amal and Hizballah gunmen.

### Fatah Accuses Muragha Group of Assassination

*NC2301064289 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 23 Jan 89*

[Text] The Fatah Movement in Sidon has accused the Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] group of assassinating Husayn 'Awwad, one of its members, in West Beirut.

According to a Fatah statement, the victim, a resident of Shatila, was liquidated while paying a visit to Mar Ilyas camp in West Beirut. The statement warned the Abu Musa group against persisting in its destructive policy.

**More on Alleged Mosad Involvement in Pan Am Blast**
*JN2501180189 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 24 Jan 89 pp 1, 21*

[By 'Assaf 'Abbud]

[Excerpt] Damascus—Syrian Defense Minister General Mustafa Talas has confirmed to AL-ITTIHAD that he possesses information regarding Mosad's involvement in the bombing of the Pan Am plane over Scotland. He also said that this information is available to the U.S. and British intelligence organs. However, he added these intelligence organs have agreed not to embarrass Israel over this issue before the world.

In reply to a question on whether Syria will provide evidence on Mosad's role to U.S. agencies, Talas told AL-ITTIHAD: We are not a party concerned with the issue, as all the information has become well-known worldwide. Besides, those killed were U.S. nationals and not Syrians.

In Vienna, Jerlamba [name as published], the FRG Foreign Affairs Ministry official entrusted with pursuing the investigations on the Pan Am bombing, told AL-ITTIHAD: The British investigation commissions have told us nothing about the issue. Besides, we have not received the results of the investigations conducted by the many other agencies which are interested in identifying the culprits or the information available to these agencies on the issue. He added: We might have information. However, it is too early to make this information public. Moreover, the investigations have not yet been completed. [passage omitted]

**Cypriot Progressive Party Delegation Arrives**
*JN2301164589 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 22 Jan 89*

[Text] Damascus—The delegation of the Cypriot Progressive Party of the Working People—AKEL—led by Comrade Dhimitrios Khristofias, general secretary of the party Central Committee, arrived in Damascus this evening on a visit of several days to Syria at the invitation of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command. The delegation was received at Damascus International Airport by Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party; Comrade Sami 'Attari, member of the Ba'th Party National Command; Comrade Sami al-Salih, member of the Ba'th Party Central Committee and secretary of Al-Qunaytirah Branch; and a number of comrades and party cadres.

The Cypriot party delegation will hold party and political talks with a Ba'th Party Command delegation on a number of issues concerning both sides. The Cypriot party delegation will meet officials from the party command and government. The delegation will also be briefed on developments that took place in Syria in various fields.

**Meets Ba'th Party Delegation**
*JN2301150689 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 23 Jan 89*

[Text] At the National Command headquarters, a round of party talks was held at noon today between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party delegation, led by Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Party, and the delegation of the Cypriot Progressive Party of the Working People—AKEL—led by Comrade Dhimitrios Khristofias, general secretary of the party Central Committee.

The two sides discussed relations between the two parties and expressed satisfaction over the existing relations and their development. Comrade al-Ahmar presented a survey of the economic and political state of affairs and the achievements in the country during the past years under the leadership of struggling Comrade Hafiz al-Asad. He affirmed the basic constants of the Ba'th Party program in the country, especially those concerning the Arab-Zionist conflict and the Palestine question. He also affirmed the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people to liberate their land, establish their independent state on Palestinian territory, and hold the international conference to establish justice and peace and restore rights to their legitimate owners.

Comrade al-Ahmar also affirmed that Syria will continue to help the Lebanese brothers overcome the abnormal reality prevailing in their country, confront partitionist schemes, and achieve national accord through political reforms which establish justice and equality among all the Lebanese.

On the Cypriot cause, Comrade al-Ahmar affirmed Syria's support for the Cypriot people to regain their unity, preserve the independence and nonalignment of the island, and implement the United Nations resolutions on this issue.

Comrade Khristofias, general secretary of the AKEL Cypriot party, also affirmed the developed and strong relations with the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the necessity of continuous meetings to exchange opinions on all issues present in the Arab arena, especially in the Mediterranean basin. He praised Syria's role under the leadership of the struggling Comrade Hafiz al-Asad in confronting the Zionist enemy and supporting the Arab Palestinian and Lebanese people. He also rated highly Syria's important role in the nonaligned movement and strengthening relations between its countries. He thanked the leadership in Syria for its stand in support of Cyprus.

Comrade Khristofias wished Syria and its people further development and progress.

### Meets With Al-Shar'

*JN2501194289 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] This evening, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received Comrade Dhimitrios Khristofias, secretary general of the Central Committee of the Cypriot Restorative Party of the Working People, and his accompanying delegation.

The meeting dealt with current international situations and the situation in the region.

### Confers With Al-Asad

*JN2601151889 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] At 1200 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Dhimitrios Khristofias, secretary general of the Central Committee of the Cypriot Restorative Party of the Working People—AKE—and his accompanying delegation. The meeting was attended by Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party [ASBP].

This morning, the final round of talks between the ASBP delegation, headed by Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, and the AKEL delegation, headed by Comrade Khristofias, was held at the National Command headquarters.

The two sides concluded their party and political talks, which they began last Monday. They exchanged views on most important issues on the Arab arena and the Mediterranean basin. They also approved a program for cooperation between the two parties for the next 2 years, 1989-90. At the conclusion of the talks, the agreement was signed for the ASBP by Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the party, and for AKEL by Comrade Khristofias, secretary general of the AKEL Central Committee.

It was agreed to continue consultations between the two parties' leaderships and to find common working formulas for direct coordination on all issues presented. They approved a joint communique on the outcome of the talks—to be issued at the conclusion of the visit. They also expressed satisfaction over the strong and developed relations between the two parties.

Comrade Khristofias expressed thanks and appreciation for the cordial welcome extended to him and his delegation. He wished the Syrian Arab people, under the leadership of ASBP and its secretary general, militant Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, more development, progress, and prosperity.

### Policies of Bush Administration Viewed

*JN2201113389 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0545 GMT 22 Jan 89*

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Bush Administration, Between Welcoming and Caution," the newspaper AL-BA'TH in its editorial says: With U.S. President George Bush assuming his constitutional powers, observers expect a new political phase to begin in the United States.

Despite the fact that many analysts and observers have indicated in one way or another that there will be no substantial differences between the policies to be pursued by the Bush Administration and those pursued by former presidents—especially President Reagan—on the Arab-Israeli conflict, some analysts and observers believe that the new administration's stance might be somewhat different on the Middle East conflict.

AL-BA'TH adds: It has become clear to everybody that the Arabs in general are advocates of peace and they have made available many prerequisites for the establishment of just and durable peace in the region. The new U.S. Administration is well aware of this fact. Hence, any positive step that might be taken by the Bush Administration in the direction of establishing just and comprehensive peace will undoubtedly be welcomed and supported by the Arabs.

However, the Arabs' many bitter experiences with successive U.S. administrations stress the need for maintaining caution and vigilance more than they evoke optimism. Hence, if it is really, as circulated here and there, more enthusiastic about and has a better understanding of the regional conflict, the new U.S. Administration must consider and tackle the realities and basics of the conflict, out of an eagerness to establish a just, durable, and comprehensive peace—not out of an unqualified commitment to adopt the Israeli attitude at the expense of the Arabs, as has always been the case.

Concluding, AL-BA'TH says: If it couples words with deeds and takes a tangible practical step toward attaining just peace, the Bush Administration will find the Arabs, all Arabs in deeds and not words only, more enthusiastic and ready to take steps toward the establishment of the desired peace.

## Afghanistan

### Mujahidin Reportedly Advancing on Jalalabad

*BK2501155089 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say that fierce fighting is going on around Jalalabad, headquarters of Nangarhar, and that the mujahidin are gradually advancing in a bid to gain control of the city and fight a decisive war. Soviet bombers have intensified their attacks after the mujahidin's advancement, killing nearly 20 people and heavily damaging 10 houses and a bridge.

### Fighting Along Salang Highway Described

*LD2601063189 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0430 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] Kabul, Jan. 25, BAKHTAR—Despite several notices given by the responsible authorities of the Republic of Afghanistan, RA, to Ahmad Shah Mas'ud and his armed groups, his men kept on their subversive activities around Salang Highway.

The Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan regards it as its duty to keep the Salang Highway open in order to get the primary goods of Kabul citizens to Kabul. For this purpose, the Armed Forces of the RA became obliged to safeguard the Salang Highway from the subversive activities of the armed groups of Ahmad Shah Mas'ud.

According to available information in a military operation carried out by the Armed Forces 377 armed extremists including a number of their commanders were eliminated around the Salang Highway. Three of their arms caches, four vehicles and 12 of their entrenchments were destroyed today as well.

The Supreme Command of the Armed Forces of the RA once again announces to the opposition armed groups staying around Salang Highway to put an end to their subversive activities leading to cut the highway, otherwise, the responsibility of the continuation of such subversive activities rest with them.

The armed men of Ahmad Shah Mas'ud have arsoned 89 vehicles, have evacuated 517 state and private vehicles and have ruthlessly killed some of the drivers in the past ten months of the current Afghan year [beginning March 1988].

### Najibullah Invites Perez de Cuellar To Visit

*LD2501163689 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] The Press Affairs Department of the Presidency reports that esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, recently sent a message to His Excellency Perez de Cuellar in New York. He has been asked to visit Afghanistan and other related countries in the near future to deal with the the Afghanistan problem and in line with the duties entrusted to him by Geneva agreements and the resolution of the United Nations General Assembly's 43d session. The letter was delivered to the UN secretary general in New York on Monday, 4 Dalw [23 January], by Mr Shah Muhammad Post, Afghanistan's ambassador and permanent UN representative.

### Iran-Based Mujahidin Reject Proposed Shura

*LD2001185189 Tehran IRNA in English 1738 GMT 20 Jan 89*

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 20, IRNA—Not all Afghan resistance groups have been consulted on the formation of a provisional governing council expected to be formed in Pakistan early next month, an Afghan mujahidin leader has claimed.

Muhammad Karim Khalili the spokesman of the eight-group Afghan coalition in Iran said in an interview Thursday the decision to create such a council "has been made without coordination with the coalition and independent Afghan groups."

"One cannot expect all mujahidin to accept the outcome of this gathering since it is a hasty and incomprehensive initiative," he said on Iranian television.

The intention to form the council prior to the selection of a provisional cabinet was announced by Sebghatullah Mojadeddi, leader of the mujahidin alliance in Pakistan, Tuesday as he left Tehran after attending a seminar on Afghanistan.

In Islamabad Friday, Mojadeddi said he was confident that a preliminary government could be shaped and disagreed with Khalili's view that the council was impractical.

"It is practical that we can bring together all these people and that the shura can and should reach some decisions," he was quoted as saying.

Speaking on a weekly political, program aired by the second channel of Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB) Khalili also said the share of the Iran-based mujahidin in the 480-man council was too small.

It is believed the Iran-based Afghan guerrellas are demanding 120 seats in the shura while the larger Pakistan-based alliance has offered only 60. Mojadeddi said the two factions would reach a compromise.

Also in the TV program Mawlawi Nasrullah Mansur, head of the Harakat-e Eslami (Islamic Movement) of Afghanistan, described the future council as "one-sided".

He said the council in its proposed form would not include the rights of all Afghan groups fighting the Marxist Kabul regime.

"An air of hegemony can be felt in the functions of the Peshawar-based seven Afghan group alliance," he said.

### Moderates Reject Fundamentalist-Led Government

*BK2601025089 Hong Kong AFP in English 0157 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[By Gilles Bertin]

[Text] Islamabad, Jan 26 (AFP)—The current head of the Afghan rebel alliance has said that moderates in the coalition would reject an interim government headed by fundamentalist Muslims, resistance sources said.

Sebghatullah Mojadeddi, a moderate, said after a meeting Tuesday [24 January] in Peshawar that the three moderate factions in the seven-party alliance would not accept a fundamentalist-led government even if that was decided by an assembly, or shura, due to be held on February 10, said the sources on Wednesday.

The shura is to be held in Peshawar in northwestern Pakistan, where the resistance alliance is based.

Mr. Mojadeddi said the three moderate factions had not resolved their differences with their four fundamentalist allies and would not support a government headed by Ahmad Shah, a Saudi-backed rebel leader, added the sources.

The three moderate factions, which back a government led by former Afghan King Zahir Shah, have been stepping up opposition to the fundamentalists, who wish to install an Islamic republic in Kabul following an eventual fall of the Soviet-backed government there.

The 74-year-old king, in exile in Rome since 1973, has met with Soviet officials but has not commented on a return.

The mujahidin leader most opposed to the moderates and to the former monarch, Gulbuddin Hikmatyar of the radical Hezb-e Eslami group, said at a recent press conference here that he would ask the shura to name the head of the "mujahidin government" Ahmad Shah as interim leader.

The mujahidin government, named last year, only represented the most extremist fundamentalists and was not well received by most of the rebel commanders fighting inside Afghanistan.

The sunni Muslim seven-party alliance, and its smaller eight-party shi'ite counterpart in Iran, are to send some 500 representatives to the shura, which is to name the interim government.

The sunnis have only given the shi'ites 60 seats at the shura, but the Iran-based group demands more than 120. Mr. Hikmatyar, currently in Iran, is looking for a compromise of between 80 to 90 seats to the shi'ites.

But the biggest disagreement remains the one between the four fundamentalist groups and their three moderate counterparts, who want a pro-Western liberal government.

The rebels have formed a verification committee that is to approve or reject the lists being given by the parties for the shura.

Diplomats say committee discussions have been lively, with the moderates fearing being overwhelmed by the fundamentalists at the shura, which is to meet only to name an interim government.

Violent incidents already took place Monday at a refugee camp in Quetta in southwestern Pakistan between backers and opponents of King Zahir, mujahidin sources said.

The diplomats said that a few dozen "good Muslims" backing a return by the king and currently working for the Soviet-backed government in Kabul could be admitted to the shura.

The United Nations has said it still hopes that a "third force" indirectly representing the percentage of the population which supports Afghan leader Najibullah be included in the shura.

But the rebels have always rejected sharing power with the ruling communist Afghanistan People's Party, whose forces they have fought for almost 10 years.

### Armed Forces Combat Operations Detailed

#### Armed Incidents 18 Jan

*LD2001091989 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 19 Jan 89*

[Text] Quoting Armed Forces sources at the president's press office, BIA reported that the Armed Forces, in order to foil the subversive plans of the enemies of the homeland and people, have carried out successful operations in the past 24 hours during which 212 extremists were killed, including Pakistani advisers, and dozens more were wounded. Details of the Armed Forces' operations follow:

Nangarhar: The armed extremists, supported by Pakistani militias and Armed Forces, attacked security posts near Kama and Sorkh Rud districts. However, in using effective military tactics, the Armed Forces units and companies temporarily retreated from a number of security posts and then launched a broad and effective attack on the enemies of peace and tranquillity. Fourteen of the armed opposition were killed and a large number of them were seriously injured. During the operation, 51 recoilless gun shells, 28 rocket shells, 2 rocket launchers, 25 surface-to-surface missiles, and 2 light weapons were seized; 10 of the armed extremists were arrested. During this attack by the country's Armed Forces on the warmongers' positions, two courageous men of the Armed Forces were martyred.

Herat: As a result of blows inflicted on the pockets of extremists near Enjil, Koshk and Ghurian districts, a total of 42 extremists attached to extremist groups were killed. In another operation by the Armed Forces in Gozareh district, a large number of antipersonnel mines, mortars, hand grenades, a large quantity of explosives, and 10 kg of a narcotic substance were seized and a surface-to-surface missile depot was blown up.

Qandahar: The armed extremists fired heavy weapons at the security posts around Qandahar city, a 250-bed civilian hospital, and a residential area. They injured one ancillary staffer, two patients, one soldier, and one citizen, and destroyed two vehicles. The Armed Forces stationed in Qandahar reciprocated by attacking the hideouts of these warmongers and dealt them crushing blows. Twenty-one of the extremists were killed and seven [word indistinct], several mortars and DShKs, and dozens of surface-to-surface missiles of the extremists were eliminated. During this operation three courageous Armed Forces men were also martyred.

Khowst: The armed extremists fired 206 heavy weapons shells at the city and security posts of Khowst major district. They martyred one inhabitant and injured three soldiers. In a retaliatory measure by the Armed Forces, hundreds of these warmongers were either killed or injured by aerial and artillery attacks on their positions. According to the report, the extremists were unable to remove the bodies of the dead and injured and called for assistance from Miramshah. As a result of the successful Armed Forces operation in Shah Vali Kot, a dozen extremists and six Pakistani militia men were eliminated.

Kabul: The warmongering and plundering extremists attacked a supply convoy of foodstuffs destined for Kabul city in Mir Bacheh Kowt and Dosarak-e Goldara areas yesterday and plundered six truckloads of wheat, rice, and ghee. The criminal extremists attacked the residential area of Hud Kheyl with heavy weapons and killed 5 civilians and injured another 12 persons. The Armed Forces retaliated and inflicted heavy and decisive blows on the extremists. Six of them were killed near Qara Bagh District and dozens of others were seriously injured. As a result of blows by the Armed Forces, a weapon and ammunition depot of the extremists was blown up near Shakar Darreh District; dozens of the extremists were killed.

Laghman: The criminal extremists on 17 January fired 24 shells of heavy weapon on Mehtarlam city; one soldier was martyred. The Armed Forces retaliated by inflicting deadly blows on the extremists' positions. The exact losses have not yet been reported.

Faryab: The criminal extremists fired heavy weapons on Kamarband-e Shakar Khan post and martyred five courageous soldiers. The Armed Forces retaliated by inflicting crushing blows on the criminals positions causing heavy losses of life.

According to the most recent report by the country's Armed Forces aerial and artillery blows were recently inflicted on the pockets of extremists near Daman and Arghandab districts, Qandahar Province; Ghurian District, Herat Province; and Dara-e Sang-e Ghar region, Khowst major district. A total of 28 armed extremists were killed and 56 of them were seriously injured.

Five men attached to the Gulbuddin group were killed and another six were injured when their vehicle, loaded with weapons and ammunition, swerved off the road and crashed in the Kotal-e Dobandi region, Lowgar Province.

### 212 Rebels Killed 19 Jan

*LD2001065289 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0454 GMT 20 Jan 89*

[Text] Kabul, Jan. 19, BAKHTAR—212 extremists elements were killed and tens of others seriously wounded as a result of Armed Forces combat operations in the 24 past hours in the provinces of Nangarhar, Herat, Qandahar, Kabol, Laghman, Faryab as well as Khowst grand district, report our military correspondents from the said provinces.

The reports added that over ten extremists were captured alive and a large amounts of arms and munitions belonged to the extremist groups were either seized or destroyed by the Armed Forces in the said operations.

According to other reports the extremists fired heavy rockets on the residential areas of Qandahar Province as well as Khowst and wounding seven others in Qandahar and Khowst including four soldiers.

Likewise, five civilians were killed and 12 others got injured as a result of the rockets fired by the extremists on residential areas of Khud Kheyl area, Kabul city on Wednesday.

The criminal extremists fired surface-to-surface rockets in the past two days on the residential areas of Mehtarlam city, capital of Laghman and Kabul Province which caused death of five soldiers as well.

In spite of all such criminal acts of the extremists the Armed Forces are fully capable to inflict heavy blows to the extremists and ensure peace in the country.

### 2 Pakistani Helicopters Downed

*LD2001024889 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 19 Jan 89*

[Text] Quoting a spokesman of Nangarhar Army Garrison, a BAKHTAR military correspondent reported that two Pakistani helicopters that violated the Republic of Afghanistan's airspace to transport foreign advisors and chieftains of the extremists and then landed at (Yasis Baba) region of Nangarhar Province were destroyed yesterday at 1300 together with all those on board as a result of blows inflicted by the Armed Forces.

### Armed Operations Roundup

*LD2501190189 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] A reliable Armed Forces source described the military situation in the country to the BAKHTAR military section as follows:

Kabul: As a result of operations by the Armed Forces around the Sarowbi and Shakar Darreh districts, Kabul Province, 43 warmongering extremists were killed and 19 were wounded. Two recoilless guns, one mortar, and two rocket missiles were seized from them and seven of their strongholds were destroyed.

Paravan: As a result of Armed Forces combat opperations in the Tajekan region, Jabal os Saraj District, 94 extremists were killed among which were 4 of their ringleaders, namely (Habib Khan), (Zabet Hasel), (Agha Sherin), and (Gorg). In the course of these successful operations three trucks and a large quantity of assorted weapons and rocket missiles belonging to the extremists were seized by the Armed Forces. According to another report, as a result of launching long-range heavy weapons at the Jabal os Saraj region, the extremists wounded five Armed Forces personnel.

Paktia: As a result of extremist fire against the Jaji Meydan region, one member of the security forces in the area was injured.

Qandahar: As a result of blows by the Afghan Armed Forces on areas around the airport and the (Sarpuza) district of Qandahar city, 55 extremists were killed and 33 wounded. During the operation three mortars, three DShK, and a large number of extremist strongholds were destroyed. As a result of shelling by the extremists on the (Sarpuza) and Takhteh Pol posts of that province, one member of the Armed Forces was martyred and one was injured. Also as a result of the shelling, two women and five children were wounded.

Herat: As a result of heavy weapons fire in the province, the enemy has wounded three members of the Armed Forces and one civilian; part of the state press in the province was set on fire. According to another report, as a result of shattering blows by the artillery forces in the Chesht region, Herat Province, three extremists were killed and a number of them wounded.

Baghlan: During a combat operation by the security forces in Baghlan Province, seven extremists were killed and seven wounded.

Zabol: As a result of shattering blows by the Air Force on weapons and ammunition convoys belonging to extremists from the so-called Hezb-e Eslami group, 30 extremists were killed and 2 trucks carrying weapons and ammunition were destroyed. Also during an Air Force operation against an extremist center in Zabol Province, 24 warmongers were killed; one DShK and six of their strongholds were destroyed.

Helmand: During a clean-up operation by the Armed Forces in the Serah Kala region, Gereshk district, 8 extremists were killed and one truck and one rocket missile unit belonging to them were destroyed.

### Food Convoys Arrive in Kabul After Snow Delay

*LD1901164489 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 18 Jan 89*

[Text] Supply convoys continue to arrive in Kabul city via the Salang highway. More government and private vehicles loaded with foodstuffs and gasoline arrived in Kabul today. A Kabul official comments:

[Begin recording] The arrival of food convoys in Kabul city, which was halted for a time due to heavy snow falls on the Salang and Kabul-Hayratan highway, is now being resumed, and the convoys are transporting foodstuffs and other basic materials needed by Kabul citizens. For example, today, over 100 vehicles transported 1,422 tons of goods, including foodstuffs and gasoline to Kabul city. These commodities include 75 tons of flour, 32 tons of sugar, 70 tons of ghee, 100 tons of rice, and 218 tons of other foodstuffs and basic materials; 208 tons of gasoline, 685 tons of diesel fuel, and 14 tons of kerosene.

On the basis of a Kabul municipality proposal and on Prime Minister Muhammad Hasan Sharq's instructions, an extra 20 tons of flour, in addition to the previous 120 tons, will be distributed to Kabul bakeries. The decision to distribute 140 tons of flour to Kabul bakeries every day is made in order to alleviate the difficulties facing Kabul citizens, and to further assist their well being and tranquility.

Meanwhile, Kabul municipality asks all citizens to take a more effective role in assisting the appointed commissions against hoarding and against transgressors, and thus discharge their national duty. [end recording]

### Kabul To Import Grain from USSR, Mongolia

*LD2501210489 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] Kabul's bakers and its bakeries provide the city's residents with 250 tons of bread every day. In the past 2 days, 140 tons of grain, including flour and rice, have been offered lower prices than in some past days. This was said today by Kabul Mayor Muhammad Hakim at a news conference attended by Afghan and foreign journalists in Kabul municipal hall. He added that every day 40 tons of flour are distributed at a price 50 percent lower than last week. It has been decided that 31,000 tons of flour will be brought in from the Pol-e Khomri silo and another 33,000 tons from the Mazar-e Sharif

silo. The transportation of these goods and other commodities to Kabul started after the Armed Forces opened the Salang Highway. The Kabul mayor added that under a separate contract 10,000 tons of wheat will be imported from Mongolia and 160,000 tons of wheat will be imported from the friendly Soviet Union. The arrival of the wheat will help greatly to normalize the foodstuff situation in Kabul.

Answering a question, he said the residents of Kabul consume about 630 tons of wheat flour daily. If hoarders are stopped right now there is a sufficient quantity of flour in the markets. He said that seven hoarders had been arrested in the past 2 weeks and a large amount of foodstuff had been seized. Hoarders have been handed over to the hands of the law.

Kabul municipality considers snow and icy roads and subversive activities by extremists along the Salang Highway the cause of the shortage of flour and wheat over the past few weeks in Kabul.

### Najibullah Hails Konduz People's War Efforts

*LD2001105589 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 19 Jan 89*

[Message from President Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, to the people, Armed Forces personnel, and the leadership of Konduz Province; date not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

Mr Governor, the leadership of Konduz Province, noble and patriotic people of Konduz Province, brave personnel of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan in Konduz Province, compatriots, sisters and brothers:

I have been informed that the warmongering extremists have again attempted to disrupt peace and tranquility in Konduz Province, and to bring bereavement to the families of our Konduz compatriots. They intended to burn or plunder public property, and to repeat their previous unforgivable crimes. Fortunately their sinister conspiracies were foiled. They were firmly confronted by the heroes and brave guardians of our homeland. The brave self-sacrificers of our heroic Armed Forces, with cries of God is great, resorted to a decisive and successful attack against the enemies of Islam and peace. They not only inflicted a shameful defeat on them, but drew the attention of the leaders of extremist groups and their foreign patrons to the consequences of their deeds.

Please accept my best wishes and congratulations on the occasion of your heroic defense of peace and security in Konduz Province, and your successful attacks against the enemies of peace and reconciliation.

The leadership of the Republic of Afghanistan and the PDPA Central Committee are proud of your timely action, the brave guardians of the country, which became a victory with the assistance and cooperation of the noble people of Konduz Province. We offer our profound condolences to the families and relatives of those martyred as a result of enemy fire and rockets and share your sorrow and pain.

The enemies of the people of Afghanistan cannot stop us from following our chosen path of implementing the national reconciliation policy and ending war in our country.

### Commentary Urges Political Solution, Dialogue

*LD2001120689 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0445 GMT 20 Jan 89*

[Commentary on the Logic of Dialogue—BAKHTAR headline]

[Text] Kabul, Jan. 19, BAKHTAR—The logic of finding a political solution for the situation in Afghanistan and around it through dialogue is an objective one. The rejection of the principle of talks and dialogue by some opponents by no means is a political victory but on the contrary it is a tactic for gaining further privileges in the coalition government with broader basis.

After the rejection of talks by the leadership of the seven-alliance with the Soviet Union, the different political circles, Afghans, various governments and states of the world including Iran and Pakistan showed a negative reaction to this decision. Benazir Bhutto, prime minister of Pakistan, and authorities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of that country were out to bring pressure on the leadership of the "seven-alliance" and persuaded them to resume the talks. Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the Republic of Iran and the former king of Afghanistan called for the resumption of talks with the Soviet Union. The United Nations organisation also deplored the unilateral cessation of talks.

Under the international reactions the leaders of the "seven-alliance" have realised the baselessness of their illogical decision and were obliged to make up their mistakes. Sebghatullah Mujaddedi, chairman of the "seven-alliance", confirmed the resumption of talks but pending to certain conditions. The council of eight alliance has indirectly announced their accord to the resumption of talks. Burhanuddin Rabbani explicitly called for the resumption of talks with the Soviet Union.

The question arises here that why did the opposition groups adopt different positions in a few days and why do they revert from the decision of ceasing the talks to the principle of the continuation of talks. The existing realities such as the combat preparedness of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan, the support given

to the policy of national reconciliation by the overwhelming majority of the people of Afghanistan, incapability of the opposition groups for a military confrontation and the international reactions in favour of dialogue have made them to resume the talks. Of course, the existence of a common-sense, sense of responsibility, and political realism before the leaders of opposition forces in Iran and Pakistan and the Western countries are also reckoned as important factor towards the political solution and the acceptance of the principle of talks.

The suffering people of Afghanistan are hoping that those circles in the opposition groups favouring a peaceful solution of the situation will develop and the extremist groups who are favouring war will be doomed.

## Iran-Based Mujahidin Leader Khalili Interviewed

*NC1901201589 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1712 GMT 19 Jan 89*

[Weekly political roundtable with Muhammad Karim Khalili, spokesman for the Tehran-based eight-party Alliance of the Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan; Mawlawi Mansur, head of the Islamic Revolution Movement of Afghanistan; and moderator Afshar, in Tehran on 19 January; Khalili and Mansur speak in Dari; Afshar's questions are in Persian—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Afshar] In the name of God, the almighty, the merciful. I greet you, dear viewers and compatriots, and express wishes for the victory and success of each and every one of you, dear brothers and sisters.

As you know, various incidents have recently taken place in connection with Afghanistan and the problems of that country. Namely, representatives of the seven-party Afghan alliance based in Pakistan came to Tehran for talks, and representatives of the eight-party Islamic alliance based in Tehran went to Pakistan for a series of talks. In Tehran, we also witnessed an international seminar on the study of the Afghanistan problem.

For this reason, our roundtable discussion this week is once again devoted to the Afghanistan problem. I wish to introduce the participants who have been invited to take part in this program. They are our brother Mr Muhammad Karim Khalili, spokesman for the eight-party Islamic alliance council based in Tehran, and our other brother Mr Mawlawi Nasrullah Mansur, leader of the Afghanistan Islamic Revolution Movement. [passage omitted]

Mr Khalili, you participated in the seminar on the Afghanistan problem, and you also delivered a speech there. Generally speaking, this seminar was held in order to study the problems of Afghanistan as well as solutions to the difficulties and problems faced by Afghanistan. As an active participant in this seminar, how do you assess the seminar and to what extent do you think this seminar was able to achieve its objectives?

[Khalili] [Passage omitted] In our opinion, this seminar was a positive step in presenting the Islamic revolution of Afghanistan. We believe that this was the first step taken by scholars and research workers from several countries, and various opinions were put forward about Afghanistan's future. This, in our opinion, was very favorable and positive. We believe that the seminar was held at a sensitive juncture and under extremely favorable conditions—that is, at a time when the Islamic revolution of Afghanistan is on the eve of victory, when the final victory is approaching for the Afghanistan people.

Apart from providing a forum for the views of scholars, this seminar was a meeting of leaders of the struggle, resistance forces, and Islamic parties; and this, in itself, had an extremely positive impact on Afghanistan's future and on the current situation in Afghanistan. This seminar and the participation of the jihad leaders from Pakistan and Iran absolutely proved to a world that is constantly harping on discord among the resistance forces that such allegations are baseless and that there is good understanding among the resistance forces, and that they agree on the general and basic issues concerning Afghanistan's revolution. This seminar will be a good example of the cooperation of all the jihad leaders in Pakistan and Iran.

[Afshar] Mr Khalili, I have a question on the mujahidin's recent talks with the Soviet Union. Moscow emphasized in these talks that a role should be given in Afghanistan's future government to the current regime in Afghanistan. Contrary to Moscow's views, the mujahidin emphasized that no role should be given to the current Kabul regime in the future government of Afghanistan. This difference of opinion led to an interruption in the talks. Some believe that this interruption may result in a delay in the timetable for the withdrawal of the Soviet troops from Afghanistan. In view of the fact that, at any rate, these talks could have positive impacts, do you not think that it would have been better to solve this difference of view by continuing the talks?

[Khalili] Of course this depends on the Soviet Union's realism. Both during the Tehran talks and during the joint talks in Islamabad, we strongly rejected any participation by the current regime. As far as the world and international law are concerned, the participation of the current regime is not at all logical. This is a regime that has perpetrated crimes for a decade. It has martyred more than 1 million Afghan people and destroyed more than 70 percent of Afghanistan. I think that any other country and any other nation would say the same thing as we have said. They would also have rejected participation by the current regime.

Therefore, on this basis, we believe that the insistence by the Soviet Union and by the Soviet delegation on participation by the current regime in Afghanistan's future government is illogical and unrealistic. It is this insistence by the Soviet Union that prevented the talks from achieving results. Now it depends on the Soviet Union

and on how much longer they will continue their insistence. As long as they continue it, the talks will difinitely not yield any results. The Russians and the Soviets do sometimes display realism. We believe that given the slogans propounded by the Soviet leaders and the policy that they have adopted, the Soviets are bound ultimately to display this realism and will stop their insistence. Whenever they do so and whenever they end their support for the current regime, the talks will definitely resume and there will be a result. It all depends on what kind of policy the Soviet Union adopts.

[Afshar] Thank you. Mr Mawlawi Mansur, the Soviets, meanwhile, intend to include Zahir Shah—the former head of the Afghan Government—in the future government of Afghanistan. My question is: What is the stand of the mujahidin on this? Will they accept the inclusion of Zahir Shah? And, if Zahir Shah comes, what role can he play in the future government?

[Mansur] In the name of God, the Almighty, the Merciful. The rule of Afghanistan's future government should be based on the principles and criteria of Islam, the Koran, and the traditions of the Prophet, PBUH. It should be a rule desired by the Muslim, heroic, and selfless people of Afghanistan. These are the people who have given their blood, who have sacrified their children and youth, who have given more than 1 million martyrs, who have seen more than 5 million persons emigrate to the Islamic Republic of Iran and to Pakistan, who have over 2 million refugees among them within Afghanistan, and who have witnessed the destruction of more than (?70 percent) of their houses in Afghanistan. All of these sacrifices were made for the sake of Islam, so that it would rule in Afghanistan. [passage omitted]

If we were to ask our young brothers to give their blood but say that in return they would receive Afghanistan and the world, but not Islam, they would not accept. Therefore, Zahir Shah will not be brought back by the nation but by the superpowers. It is for the sake of colonialism's sinister objectives that the superpowers want to bring Zahir Shah to power now that the heroic Afghan nation has (?struggled). This is why we (?believe) that Afghahistan's future ruler should be an Islamic one. Zahir Shah will not be able to come to Afghanistan either in the position of a (?ruler) or as an individual with rights in the government. The Muslim people of Afghanistan believe that Zahir Shah is a partner in the crimes perpetrated by the Soviet Union.

[Afshar] Thank you very much. [passage omitted] Mr Khalili, according to a program announced yesterday, the elections for the consultative council of Afghanistan's future government are to be held in the liberated areas of Afghanistan and in the Afghan refugee camps in Pakistan and Iran on 1 February. There are various opinions with regard to the composition of this council, who will form it, and how many members it will have. I ask you within your capacity as spokesman for the eight-party Islamic alliance council to give our viewers some more information on the number of members and who the members will be.

[Khalili] As we have been informed, the council that is to be established will be called the consultative council. It has been reported that 480 members will participate in it and that it will meet for only 1 day. Of the 480 members, 50 percent should be individuals from inside Afghanistan—commanders and mujahidin inside the country—and the other 50 percent should comprise the emigrants and Islamic parties in Pakistan, Iran, and other countries where there are emigrants. This is its form.

It should be noted that this council has many weak points and problems. One is that it is one-sided like in the past and like the plan for the interim government. A number of the resistance forces compiled the program for this council, while the remainder of the resistance forces—both the alliance council and the other jihad forces that are neither united nor in alliance—were not in the picture at all. Any one-sided plan or program definitely will not be effective. The other weak point and criticism that can be made is that this council, which includes 480 or more members from within Afghanistan and from abroad, is to meet for only 1 day in Pakistan or in another place under these sensitive circumstances and give a vote of confidence to another interim government.

With all these problems, with the jihad responsibilities inside the country, with the intensification of the armed struggle within the country, and with the circumstances existing abroad, it definitely will be difficult for all of them to gather on this specific day, and then only for 1 day, and give a vote of confidence to a government that will be known as an interim government. This will be an extremely difficult task and, in the opinion of the alliance council, completely useless. The third point is that the weakness that should be emphasized is the nonparticipation of the jihad forces that are outside the framework of the alliance. We have many other forces in mind, the membership of which in this council was not brought up at all.

The fourth point is that the alliance council and what the brothers have pointed out or what is deduced from their remarks is that what is happening is not at all acceptable to the council and that the genuine realities of Afghanistan do not justify the stand toward the council. All these weaknesses are the outcome of a hastiness with regard to the plan and the program, and definitely any program that is compiled in a hasty manner that is not comprehensive will have such weak points and will not succeed.

[Afshar] Mr Khalili, didn't the seven-party alliance based in Pakistan carry out any negotiations or coordinate with the alliance based in Tehran on the [consultative] council elections?

[Khalili] No, there was no such coordination. The problem is that there were no agreements and coordination either with the alliance council or with the other jihad forces that are not in the alliance. Therefore, we believe that the defeat experienced by the former interim government is a sufficient example for the resistance forces to understand the need to avoid hasty programs. I hope that all the resistance forces and all the political and scientific personalities of Afghanistan will study and put forth a principled, all-encompassing, and comprehensive plan—one that concerns Afghanistan's future, which is very destiny-making and important—with the agreement of all forces and all parties involved, and, of course, with the exception of the Kabul regime, so that it will be effective.

[Afshar] God willing. Mr Mawlawi Mansur, as the leader of the Afghanistan Islamic Revolution Movement, which is outside the alliance, is it true that there was no coordination with you either by the seven-party alliance based in Pakistan, as stated by Mr Khalili, as far as the council elections are concerned or about the council members?

[Mansur] The consultative council should be destiny-making and take into consideration the rights of all the mujahidin and jihad forces. It should be based on Islamic principles. As the Koran says: "(Conduct) their affairs by mutual consultations; who spend out of what we bestow on them for sustenance." What Mr Khalili has said is the truth. Some monopolization exists in the consultative council. And we believe that if our brothers—the seven-party alliance—do not review their stand, the program of the consultative council will be unable to reach anywhere because it is contrary to what the jihad forces want. The fate of the Islamic revolution is at a very sensitive juncture, and each moment calls for more struggles. Under these circumstances [this approach] cannot be effective. What should be done is what the heroic nation wants—unifying views, coordinating and trusting.

[Afshar] Thank you. Mr Mawlawi Mansur, we have a seven-party alliance of Afghan mujahidin and an eight-party alliance. Apart from these, there are many Afghan resistance forces. Why does a general alliance or unification not take place, in view of the fact that the Afghan resistance forces—the Afghan mujahidin—have a great enemy and their unity is a must?

[Mansur] The struggling forces outside the seven-party alliance and the eight-party Islamic alliance council call for the existence of a progressive unity—a unity that can be destiny-making in the true sense of the word, and a unity that will consist of cooperation in all fields. The demand of the resistance organizations that left the seven-party and eight-party alliances was unity. Naturally we had unity on the basis of a (?call) by the ulema—a comprehensive unity that was stated in 102 articles. This was a unity that said that all the parties involved—both Sunni and Shi'ite—should be in one line and have one objective so that they can take a positive step for the Islamic revolution, resist all plots hatched by the East and the West against the Islamic revolution, gain the nation's trust, and so that it can—after the victory of the Islamic revolution—pave the way for strong Islamic rule in Afghanistan. [passage omitted]

We should not be 15 or 16, but should be one. For us, a seven-party and an eight-party [alliance] is truly contrary to the spirit of the sacrifices made and of the Islamic revolution. Even a two-party [alliance] of, say, Shi'ite and Sunni should not exist. We should have unity between the Sunni and Shi'ite brothers. We are all brothers. Our brothers want Islam, and Islam wants unity from us. This is a divine decree. [passage omitted]

[Afshar] We do not have much time left. I have one more question on unity. Definitely, the Soviet policy on Afghanistan is to prevent the many Afghan parties from reaching a unity of views. In view of this, how successful were you in your talks with the Afghan mujahidin in Pakistan and in Tehran on reaching unity and a common point of view on the Afghanistan issue? I deduce from what you have said about the consultative council elections that apparently you have not achieved full unity. Can you discuss how true this is in the short time that we have available?

[Khalili] In our talks in Tehran we reached unity of views on many general and major issues on the revolution. At the Tehran meeting, a seven-point joint resolution between the alliance committee and the Pakistan-based alliance committee was published. We reiterated the following to the Soviet representatives in our talks with them: Rest assured that the mujahidin are fully united and coordinated as far as confronting you and your occupying forces and as far as overthrowing your puppet regime are concerned. We also pointed out that this applies to Afghanistan's future and to the fact that this future should be a free and independent one not dominated by foreign powers.

All the brothers believe—and our resolution also pointed out—that social justice should be administered in Afghanistan's future for all nationalities, parties, and people in Afghanistan, and that Afghanistan's future should include the desired government which, we believe, will be the Islamic rule for which the people have so selflessly and devotedly struggled. These are the common points on which we reached agreement and on which we fully concur in our views. There are definitely other problems on which understanding has not yet been achieved. However, generally speaking, the alliance council wants unity and coordination. The only way to solve the Afghanistan problem is unity, understanding, and coordination among the Islamic resistance forces.

[Afshar] We also hope that, God willing, full unity will be established among the Afghan struggling forces. Dear viewers, we hope that this program has been useful for you. In conclusion, I greet you together with the participants in this roundtable—Messrs Khalili and Mawlawi

Mansur—and together with my other brothers in the political group of the second network of the vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran. God bless you all.

## Bangladesh

### Public Meetings Banned Prior to Elections

*BK2501160289 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] A 48-hour ban has been imposed on public meetings and processions in pourosabha [municipality] areas where elections will be held on Saturday [28 January]. The ban will be effective from midnight tomorrow to midnight Saturday. Under the ban, no one will be allowed to convene, hold or join in any procession during the period. Elections are being held in 81 out of 86 pourosabhas. Elections in the remaining five pourosabhas of Narayanganj, Manikganj, Ghazipur, Barisal and Sylhet have been (?stayed) by an order of the high court. The Election Commission has taken all necessary steps to ensure free, fair and impartial elections.

### Nationalist Party Calls for 8-Hour Strike

*BK2401055689 Hong Kong AFP in English 0355 GMT 24 Jan 89*

[Text] Dhaka, Jan 24 (AFP)—Paramilitary troops guarded the government secretariat and other vital installations here Tuesday as an opposition-called eight-hour general strike began, witnesses said.

Troops from the Border Guard Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) along with armed and riot police took up positions around the downtown secretariat housing most of the government ministries hours before the stoppage called by an opposition alliance led by Begum Khaleda Zia of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) began at 6 A.M. (0000 GMT).

The streets were quiet, with most private and public transport off the roads and only a few government buses and tricycle rickshaws operating as the strike, the first this year by the opposition against the seven-year administration of President Hussain Mohammad Ershad, got underway, witnesses said.

Several people were injured in a stampede at a march here Monday by activists of the BNP-dominated seven-party opposition alliance which has called the strike.

The stoppage marks the first anniversary of an incident in the port city of Chittagong when police opened fire on people gathering for an opposition rally, leaving at least 14 people dead.

The 1988 rally was staged by Bangladesh's other main opposition alliance headed by the Awami League of Sheikh Hasina Wajed, who was to have addressed the gathering.

Sheikh Hasina's eight-party alliance and a five-party leftwing group led by Nirmal Sen had not called for a strike Tuesday but said they would stage protest rallies and marches in Dhaka and Chittagong to mark the anniversary.

The strike got off to a peaceful start in Chittagong, a resident reached by telephone Tuesday said.

### Ershad Congratulates Bush on Assuming Presidency

*BK2101042289 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 21 Jan 89*

[Text] President Ershad has congratulated Mr George Bush on his assuming the office of the U.S. President. In a message, President Ershad said he is confident that under the wise leadership and guidance of Mr Bush, the United States will achieve prosperity in every field and serve as the beacon of happiness and world peace. The president said he hopes the warm and close ties that bind the two friendly countries will continue to deepen in the years ahead. President Ershad also wished good health, happiness, and long life of Mr Bush and continued peace, progress, and prosperity of the American friendly people.

### Ershad Approves National Narcotics Board

*BK2201081489 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Jan 89*

[Text] The president today approved the formation of National Board of Narcotics and Drug Prevention. It aims at checking supply and use of narcotics as well as treatment of drug addicts and their rehabilitation. The 16-member board will be headed by the first lady, Begum Raushan Ershad. The board will formulate policies to keep the country free from the menace of drug abuse. It will also advise the government to take up various programs for checking trafficking of narcotics and drugs, including treatment and rehabilitation of the addicts.

There will be a Narcotics and Drug Control Directorate attached to the president's secretariat. It will be headed by a director general. The formation of the board is in pursuance of the government's declared policy of preventing illegal trafficking of narcotics including drugs and their abuses in the country.

### Khaleda Zia Reelected as Party Chairman

*BK1901033789 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 19 Jan 89*

[Text] Begum Khaleda Zia has been reelected unopposed chairman of Bangladesh Nationalist Party for a 3-year term.

## India

### 'No Objection' to Pakistani Commonwealth Reentry

*BK2501144989 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] It has been officially announced in New Delhi that India has no objection to Pakistan rejoining the Commonwealth. An official spokesman said today that the question of New Delhi objecting to Islamabad's reentry into the Commonwealth does not arise after restoration of democracy in that country. In fact, New Delhi would take the lead in sponsoring Pakistan's reentry.

Pakistan had quit the Commonwealth following Britain's recognition of Bangladesh in 1971.

### Paper Criticizes U.S. Downing of Libyan Planes

*BK2301132489 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English 6 Jan 89 p 11*

[Editorial: "Indefensible Action"]

[Text] Whatever explanation it offers, Washington will find it difficult to convince the world that its F-14s in the Mediterranean had to shoot down two Libyan jets in self-defence. American sources have claimed that the incident is unrelated to the earlier US threats to bomb a chemical weapons factory south-west of Tripoli. Not many will buy that. But, if true, the American justification for shooting down the Libyan jets over international waters would be all the more untenable. The US cannot possibly argue that its military planes operating from aircraft-carriers around the seven seas do not come across enemy planes in the same kind of manoeuvres in which the Libyan jets were spotted by the F-14s.

But when did they attack a Soviet jet? In fact, the Libyan version of the incident appears more acceptable—that the MiG-23s were on a surveillance flight. Such a thing would be plausible in the context of the open US threat to blow up the chemical factory which, according to the Americans, is about to produce poisonous gas for chemical warfare. Even if Libya's denial of the charge cannot be substantiated, would the US be justified in arrogating to itself the role of punishing the errant state merely because it is part of the Third World? Washington itself has accused chemical factories in West Germany and Switzerland of assisting the Libyan project. If the charge is true, how do these European companeis merit preferential treatment over the Libyans?

The second US attack on Libya since 1986, when Col Qadhdhafi was sought as a target in a series of bombing raids, follows a pattern which started in the Gulf with the shooting-down of a civilian Iranian airliner. There was widespread condemnation of the US act, but nothing worse. The Soviet inaction and measured response then, together with Mr Gorbachev's preoccupations at home, seemed to have encouraged Washington to act tough with nations it considers wayward. Teheran's decision to terminate the Gulf war soon after the incident might have further encouraged the US. But such arrogant acts must not be overlooked, even if Moscow chooses to do so.

The United Nations or other such forums must first be used to sort out undoubtedly complex problems like building chemical weapons factories. By not doing so, the US had displayed an attitude which is not conducive to the promotion of peace in the world, a direction to which this planet seems to be heading. If Wednesday's attack on the Libyan jets is no more than Mr Reagan's parting kick, it may be easier to forget the damage. But what if it is a foretaste of more hawkish policies under the Bush administration?

### Commentary Hails Visit of U.S. Congressman

*BK1901115989 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 19 Jan 89*

[Commentary by H. Sitarama Rao, special PTI correspondent—"Mr. Solarz' Visit to India"]

[Text] For a refreshing change, an important U.S. congressman, visiting the subcontinent, tried to assess the situation in the region realistically, forming his opinion without any bias. The U.S. congressman, Mr Stephen Solarz, who has just concluded his visit to Bangladesh, Pakistan, and India, has had a close look at various issues, including the terrorist problem, and had given vent to his feelings on this and other subjects in unambiguous terms. Generally, visitors from the Western countries tend to see developments in South Asia with colored glasses. But, Mr Solarz, who is chairman of the Congress subcommittee on Asia and Pacific affairs, did not do so. The visit, as he himself described, has been productive.

During his visit, Mr Solarz had in-depth talks with President Ershad of Bangladesh; the Pakistan prime minister, Mrs Benazir Bhutto; and the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, on these and other issues. He also had a first hand information of the situation in Punjab. The U.S. congressman will be later involved in American congressmen hearing on the human rights issue in Punjab. Mr Solarz also had a meeting with the external affairs minister, Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao.

At the meeting, which took place after his visit to Punjab, Mr Solarz informed Mr Rao that he had heard exaggerated reports about violations of human rights in the state from Amnesty International activists. But having visited the Golden Temple and having discussions with the representation of the Sikh, also the state governor, he had realized that the propaganda about violation of human rights in the state was exaggerated.

(?Then) the questions galored at his press conference on the issue of Pakistan's nuclear program and also the assistance to Punjab terrorists from across the border. When a Pakistani correspondent sought to know whether

he was satisfied that Pakistan pursued a peaceful nuclear program, Mr Solarz said he had never opposed Pakistan's peaceful nuclear program. The concern, he said, was against Pakistan's nuclear weapons program. With the change in government in Pakistan I am very hopeful, he said, that it will not be impossible to resolve the concern expressed both in Washington and elsewhere about the nature of Pakistan's nuclear program. Mr Solarz is hopeful now that it may be possible to avoid the frightening possibility of a nuclear arms race in the subcontinent.

On the question of assistance to terrorists, Mr Solarz said that in the past the terrorist might have received assistance from across the border. But with the return of democracy in Pakistan under the leadership of Mrs Benazir Bhutto, no help will be provided to terrorists. This assurance, Mr Solarz said, he had received from Mrs Bhutto during his talks with her in Islamabad. On the issue of U.S. economic and military aid to Pakistan, Mr Solarz said even after the withdrawal of the Soviet troops from Afghanistan, Pakistan will continue to require assistance for the consolidation of the new democratic process. During his visit to Punjab, Mr Solarz, a Democrat representing a constituency in Brooklyn, New York, had discussions with representatives of Sikhs and the state governor, Mr S.S. Ray, and his security adviser, Mr J.S. Ribeiro.

On the talks he has had with Mr Gandhi, the U.S. congressman said they have discussed a number of issues. The most important is the question of Indo-Pak relations. Mr Solarz said that Mr Gandhi is very pleased with the progress made so far in improving Indo-Pakistan relations and is helpful of the prospects of further improving the bilateral ties. Besides the three bilateral agreements reached between India and Pakistan during Mr Gandhi's visit to Islamabad, the single most significant development has been the establishment of a warm personal relationship between the two prime ministers. Both are deeply impressed with each other, particularly their commitment to the cause of looking to the future rather than the past, Mr Solarz said.

On the Punjab issue, Mr Solarz said the solution to the problem has to be political. He said during his talks, Mr Manjit Singh, Calcutta Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh Temple Management] committee secretary had told him that the Sikhs did not aspire to a solution based on a separate state of the so-called Khalistan.

During the discussion with the external affairs minister, Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao, Mr Rao made it clear that India has no plan to establish diplomatic relations with Israel. A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said later that there is no immediate prospects of any change in India's policy toward Israel. Mr Rao also briefed Mr Solarz about the steps taken by India to extend the jurisdiction of the Israeli consulate in Bombay to Kerala, where several Jewish families lived.

## SRV's Nguyen Van Linh Continues Visit

### Holds Talks With Gandhi 25 Jan

*BK2601052489 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] According to reports from New Delhi, General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi held a second round of talks on 25 January. The two leaders will conduct a third round of talks later.

On the evening of 25 January, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi hosted a banquet in honor of General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh. According to PTI, the Indian and Vietnamese leaders called for the setting up of an international mechanism to monitor disaarmament. They said that such a mechanism under UN sponsorship is necessary to thwart attempts to further develop nuclear weapons.

### Visits Bombay With Gandhi

*BK2601020889 Hanoi VNA in English 1556 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan 25—Party General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh and his wife, Mrs Ngo Thi Hue, yesterday afternoon visited Bombay, the capital city of the Maharashtra State, some 2,000 km southwest of New Delhi.

The Vietnamese party leader and his wife were accompanied by Indian Prime Minister and Mrs Gandhi, and Vietnamese officials Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach; Director of the National Institute of Atomic Energy Nguyen Dinh Tu; Assistant to the General Secretary Le Xuan Tung; and Ambassador Vu Xuan Ang.

The Vietnamese delegation was warmly welcomed by Maharashtra State's Governor Brahmananda Reddy and Prime Minister Shered Pawar.

Right after his arrival, the Vietnamese leader called at the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, the biggest one in India. He was welcomed by its leading officials and Vietnamese science workers now on practice at the centre.

Over the past years, the centre has helped Vietnam's atomic energy branch in personnel training.

Speaking to the centre's members Nguyen Van Linh expressed his admiration for India's great achievements in the atomic science and sincere gratitude for its precious assistance to Vietnam in this field.

In the evening of the same day the Vietnamese guests attended an artistic performance which was also honoured by the presence of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and his wife and other Indian senior officials.

Party General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi left Bombay for New Delhi this morning.

### Receives Rao, Others

*BK2601021089 Hanoi VNA in English*
*1546 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan 25—General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh yesterday received Indian Minister for External Affairs P.V. Narasimha Rao.

With him were Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and Vietnamese Ambassador to India Vu Xuan Ang.

On the same day, the Vietnamese party leader received Mandelie, special advisor to the Birla Group and president of the CIMMCO International.

Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and Minister for External Economic Relations Doan Duy Thanh were also present.

Party General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh today received Shiv Shanker, minister of human resource development.

Le Xuan Tung, assistant to the party general secretary, and Vietnamese Ambassador Vu Xuan Ang were present.

Earlier on January 23, his wife, Mrs Ngo Thi Hue had a cordial meeting with representatives of New Delhi women. Among her guests were Mrs Mohsina Kidwai, minister of urban development, and Mrs Aruna Asa, 85, a Lenin Peace Prize winner.

### Gandhi Speaks at Banquet

*BK2601030889 Delhi Domestic Service in English*
*0240 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has said India will make all efforts to find a political solution to the Cambodian issue. Speaking at a banquet in honor of the visiting Vietnamese leader, Mr Nguyen Van Linh, in New Delhi last night, Mr Gandhi said India would like to see Cambodia as a sovereign, independent, and nonaligned state. He hoped that the Jakarta Informal Meeting will lead to the early convening of an international conference on the issue.

The two leaders have also called for evolving an international mechanism to monitor disarmament measures. Both Mr Gandhi and Mr Linh said their countries share common views on the replacement of the present world order by one which is more just, equitable, and based on principles of peaceful coexistence.

### Vietnam To Receive 10 Crore Rupees Credit

*BK2101125989 Delhi Domestic Service in English*
*1230 GMT 21 Jan 89*

[Text] India has decided to extend a credit of 10 crore rupees to Vietnam. This decision was taken at the Indo-Vietnam Joint Commission on Scientific, Technological and Economic Cooperation meeting held in New Delhi today. The Indian side was led by the minister of state for external affairs, Mr Natwar Singh, while the Vietnamese chairman of the State Planning Commission, Mr Dau Ngoc Xuan, led his country's side. The agreement on this will be signed on Monday.

India and Vietnam will also sign a new cultural exchange program agreement.

### Agreement Signed

*BK2301080789 Delhi Domestic Service in English*
*0730 GMT 23 Jan 89*

[Text] India is to provide a credit of 10 crore rupees to Vietnam. An agreement on the utilization of the credit was signed in New Delhi today by the finance minister, Mr S.B. Chavan, and the visiting chairman of the planning commission of Vietnam, Mr Dau Ngoc Xuan.

Besides, a cultural exchange program for 1989-90 was signed by the additional secretary of the department of culture and the ambassador of Vietnam in India.

### USSR Offers Joint Research on Antarctica

*BK2201092689 Delhi Domestic Service in English*
*0830 GMT 22 Jan 89*

[Text] The Soviet Union is ready to work with India for joint research in the Antarctica. A top Soviet official said in New Delhi that Indian scientists have been invited to the USSR to have a detailed discussion on the issue. The chairman of the USSR State Committee for hydrometeorology said the agreement signed last week at Bangalore covered new areas of cooperation in meteorological and upper atmospheric research using advanced space techniques. The newly identified research areas include study of the protected ozone layer whose thinning has caused world-wide concern.

### Congress-I Legislators Stage Strike in Residence

*BK2301043089 Delhi Domestic Service in English*
*0240 GMT 24 Jan 89*

[Text] In Andhra Pradesh, 24 Congress-I MLA's [Members of Legislative Assembly] and two MP's [Members of Parliament] entered the residence of the chief minister, Mr N.T. Rama Rao, in Hyderabad last evening and staged a dharna [sit-in strike]. This was in protest against the arrest of two Congress-I MLA's earlier in the day, when they tried to begin an indefinite hunger strike demanding a CBI [Central Bureau of Investigation] inquiry into the murder of a Congress-I MLA last month.

The chief minister was not in his house when the dharna was staged and those who took part in it were arrested and released later.

Ten Telugu Desam ministers have criticized the action of the Congress-I MLA's staging the dharna and described it as undemocratic.

### Navy To Display Nuclear Submarine Feb 15

*BK2301083589 Hong Kong AFP in English 0722 GMT 23 Jan 89*

[Text] New Delhi, Jan 23 (AFP)—India plans to display its lone nuclear submarine next month in a display of naval might off the country's west coast, Defence Ministry officials said here Monday.

The Indian Navy's nuclear-powered submarine "Chakra" (Battle Wheel) will join a major naval parade on February 15 in the Arabian Sea as part of a ceremonial Navy Day review lined up for President Ramaswamy Venkataraman, the officials said.

The "Chakra", on lease from the Soviet Union, would lead a line-up of India's two aircraft carriers, five frigates and several other warships during the review in honour of the president who is also the supreme commander of India's armed forces.

The review is also open to civilians, the officials said.

The last such naval review was organised in 1984 during former President Zail Singh's tenure.

India acquired the SSRN-1 class "Chakra" from the Soviet Union in April amid reports from defence strategists that the long-range vessel was the first of a series of three.

The nuclear-powered submarine, which India says is unarmed, has been conducting top secret exercises in the Bay of Bengal and has been kept from public view since its arrival.

The Indian Navy has traditionally been dependent on Soviet equipment. Sixty percent of India's total military requirement is supplied by Moscow.

## Iran

### Egyptian Trade Delegation Reportedly To Visit

*LD2601111989 Tehran IRNA in English 1106 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] Athens, Jan. 26, IRNA—Egyptian daily AL-WAFD Wednesday in a first page report said Tehran had refused to send a trade delegation to Cairo, but has agreed to receive an Egyptian trade delegation in Tehran.

The newspaper said an Egyptian delegation would leave for Iran in the next few days to discuss joint Egyptian-Iranian ventures which were completed in the seventies, but economic talks between the two countries had come to a standstill after Tehran broke ties with Cairo when it signed a peace treaty with Israel.

AL-WAFD did not mention its source of information. State-controlled dailies AL-AHRAM and AL-AKHBAR did not mention anything concerning the issue.

Egypt's Foreign Minister Ismat 'Abd al-Majid Tuesday said he did not foresee re-establishment of ties with Iran in the near future.

### Velayati Announces Hizballah-Amal Cease-Fire

*LD2501174889 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] Foreign Minister Velayati, who went to Damascus to find a solution to recent clashes in Lebanon and to have discussions with Syrian officials and Lebanese religious and political leaders, returned to Tehran today. After his return to Tehran, the foreign minister took part in an interview with our correspondent.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr Velayati, could you please give us some details of the discussions that you had with Syrian officials and the leaders of warring factions in Lebanon, as well as of the efforts of the Islamic Republic of Iran to put an end to these clashes?

[Velayati] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

In our meetings with officials of fraternal Syria and with religious and political leaders from Lebanon, we discussed various issues, such as bilateral relations and regional issues, especially the very regrettable issue of clashes between Hizballah and Amal.

During the past few days, both Iran and Syria have made every effort to put an end to these regrettable clashes and hostilities so that war and bloodshed may be replaced with brotherhood and friendship. We had some very long meetings in the course of these few days. The last meeting started yesterday afternoon and ended this morning. In other words, we had a very long meeting, lasting nearly 15 hours.

Finally, we achieved some very important results. However, these efforts should continue so that, God willing, what has been achieved will be consolidated and so that the roots of hostility, war, and clashes between these two Muslim and combative groups may be eliminated. For the moment, the two sides have agreed on a cease-fire and on the cessation of propaganda hostilities. God willing, we and Syria will continue our efforts for the achievement of more important goals and objectives. [end recording]

## Eliasson Continues Consultations on UN 598

### Meets Velayati, Holds Interview

*LD2501181289 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] Mr Jan Eliasson, the UN secretary general's representative on the Iran-Iraq peace talks is in Tehran to learn the stances of our country's officials. He met with Foreign Minister Velayati this afternoon and conferred with him on the peace negotiations.

In the meeting Mr Velayati said it is unacceptable to our people that some of our territory should still be occupied 6 months after the resolution was accepted due to the Iraqi regime's obstruction and wasting of time. This is in spite of the fact that Resolution 598 made it essential for both parties to withdraw to their recognized international borders immediately following the establishment of a cease-fire. Mr Velayati added that Iraq, by filling the agenda with marginal issues and putting forward hollow excuses, has refrained from implementing this essential principal. He reiterated that the United Nations must adopt a more serious stance in order to pressure the Iraqi regime into implementing the resolution.

Following his meeting with Mr Velayati, the UN special envoy said in an interview with our correspondent that the second part of Clause One of Resolution 598, concerning the withdrawal of forces to behind international borders, is one of the most important principles of the resolution. This aims not only at paying respect to the Security Council's ratifications, but also for international principles. Mr Jan Eliasson pointed to the fact the that Resolution 598 is a very important document which we hope will be fully respected. He added that the full and rapid implementation of the resolution is one of the objectives we will pursue for the purpose of establishing total peace and security in the region.

In connection with the UN activities aimed at implementing the second part of Clause One of the resolution, concerning the withdrawal of forces, the UN special envoy said: We carry out tasks for that purpose baring in mind the necessity of the issue within the framework of international principles.

In reply to the question: At this phase of negotiations, do you only listen to the viewpoint of the concerned parties, or will you present a new initiative? he said: I cannot enter into too much detail, but I can say that so far I hope to conduct useful negotiations in Baghdad, as well. He added that the most important issue is that we must try to establish relations on the basis of the two countries' good-neighborly principles. I can assure you that if both parties act according to the provisions of Resolution 598, we can obtain such relations.

He said that determining a set date for continuing the Iran-Iraq talks will be made after he concludes his visit to the two countries.

### Hold Talks With Musavi

*LD2601093389 Tehran IRNA in English 0843 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 26, IRNA—Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi says Iran is in favor of real peace with Iraq and to achieve this, he believes, "it is imperative to reflect on the causes" behind the initiation of the Iraq-Iran war.

Speaking in a meeting with Jan Eliasson, the special U.N. envoy on Iraq-Iran conflict, the premier further said the threat of war would always remain in the region unless its origin is eradicated.

"We are concerned about dangers threatening accomplishment of peace from inside Iraq and believe an international effort is needed to make the Baghdad regime understand that it should respect international agreements for the cause of peace," Musavi said. He added that if international accords are to be simply overlooked, "that would bring everything under a cover of suspicion."

Eliasson who arrived here Monday night, briefed Musavi on the U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's efforts to speed up the implementation of Security Council Resolution 598.

Musavi thanked these efforts and stressed that the contents of the resolution must be fully executed.

"I noticed interesting points in your remarks and hope we can reach a suitable solution for peace, and you can rest assured that we will spare no efforts to this end," the prime minister told Eliasson.

He said withdrawal of troops to the international boundaries as stipulated in the first article of the resolution "will naturally provide the condition for the execution of the other articles."

"How can we trust Iraq will abide by the articles of the resolutin while part of our territory is still under occupation of another country," he asked.

The meeting was also attended by Deputy Prime Minister 'Ali Reza Mo'ayeri and deputy foreign minister for international relations Mohammad Hoseyn Lavasani.

Eliasson also thanked Iran for its acceptance of the resolution and its cooperation for its enforcement. He said the United Nations was trying to create a peaceful atmosphere for resumption of the peace talks. "We expect both sides to pave the way for peace by taking positive steps," he added.

"Despite lack of substantial progress in the negotiations, we are not disappointed and are looking for more suitable ways," he told Musavi.

**Editorial Claims UN 598 Remains 'Unfulfilled'**
*LD2501201189 Tehran IRNA in English 1826 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 25, IRNA—The Persian daily JOMHURI ESLAMI said in its editorial Wednesday that the first point of the U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 still remains unfulfilled and that the solution to the stalled peace talks between Iran and Iraq remains in comprehensive fulfillment of the resolution.

The following is the text of the commentary.

"Mr Jan Eliasson personal representative of the U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar who is now visiting Tehran conferred with Iranian Government officials on execution of the Security Council Resolution Number 598 Tuesday. In an interview at Tehran Mehrabad upon his arrival Monday night he referred to his mission saying in part 'The U.N. secretary general is committed to executing the various aspects of the Security Council Resolution 598 as fast as possible.

"The statement is uttered at a time the Iraqi regime means to block the execution of the Security Council resolution in whatever manner. The Ba'thist regime in Iraq feels that a realistic and just execution of any part of the resolution will doubtlessly be against the aggressor party in the war and against his case, and is therefore killing time.

"Among Iraq's notorious devices for sabotaging the resolution have been its various efforts for blocking the execution of the resolution, bringing up topics and issues outside of the resolution, and suggesting irrelevant preconditions...

"In November this year the Iraqi regime signed a letter of understanding in Geneva thereby covenanting itself to repatriate 411 ailing and disabled Iranian war prisoners in 10 flights from Baghdad as of November 20, each time releasing 41 disabled Iranian prisoners. But it executed only three phases of the repatriation agreement sending home three groups of prisoners of 19, 18 and 19 who also included several civilians. [sentence as received] Later on the repatriation project collapsed as a result of Iraq's subversive operations without Iraq offering any plausible excuse for so doing.

"The reasons for this conduct of Iraq are varied and many. To begin with the Iraqi regime has not offered any plausible excuse for its most recent breaching of its commitments, and from the point of international propaganda it has been in a feeble position. Secondly the Ba'thist regime was under pressure even from its most close allies who had voiced their dissatisfaction with Iraq's subversive operations in the peace talks.

"Thirdly the Iraqi regime 255 Iranian prisoners simultaneous with the travel to Tehran of Jan Eliasson with the idea of impressing the world and winning itself a better judgement by the world and thereby improve its previous feeble status from the point of view of propaganda, whereas the group of released prisoners were supposed to have been released months ago... by so doing the Iraqi regime also intended to overshadow the visit to Iran by the personal representative of the U.N. secretary general...

"Obviously Mr Eliasson does not have any problem with the Islamic Republic but with the Iraqi regime. Mr Eliasson, therefore, must make sure to convince the Iraqis that they should submit to the text of the resolution and to justice.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran has repeatedly voiced its discontent with the collapsing peace talks in Geneva and the Iranian officials conveyed their feelings to the secretary general while the Paris conference on chemicals weapons was in progress.

"In Paris Dr Velayati said that before the start of the fourth round of talks with Islamic Republic must make sure that the talks are going to be fruitful, or else the Iranian negotiators will have wasted their time.

"Mr Perez de Cuellar lauded the attitude of the Iranian Government and voiced his agreement with this expectation of Iran, and therefore asked Iran to agree with the visit to Tehran of his personal representative Mr Jan Eliasson so that he may examine the issues and convey a summary of his findings to the secretary general.

Mr Eliasson is now in Tehran in a bid to examine the various implications of the protected peace talks.

"On this occasion it would be worthwhile casting a cursory glance at the text of the Security Council Resolution Number 598 with a view to finding out what topics now await execution, and what part of the resolution has so far been executed.

"The resolution in summary aims at the following points.

1. To establish a ceasefire and ensure withdrawal of troops to internationally-recognized borders.

2. To nominate a peace keeping force for overseeing the withdrawal of troops.

3. To repatriate war prisoners.

4. To explore a comprehensive and just solution to all points of difference.

5. To ensure that other countries remain impartial in the process of execution of the resolution.

6. To identify the aggressor party in the war and the party responsible for the conflict.

7. To determine the amount of damages.

8. To ensure the establishment of peace and security in the region with the help of other countries of the region.

9. To make sure that the secretary general will carry out is responsibility for executing the resolution.

10. To ensure that the Security Council will follow up the execution of the resolution.

"This is a summary of the resolution, though even its first point still remains unfulfilled.

"As far as the Islamic Republic of Iran is concerned no solution other than a complete execution of the resolution is acceptable, but in the meantime the patience and self-preservation of the Islamic Republic is not without limit.

## Afghan Mujahidin's Hikmatyar Arrives For Talks

*LD2501194889 Tehran IRNA in English 1938 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 25 IRNA—Representative of the seven-party alliance of Afghan mujahidin Gulbuddin Hikmatyar arrived here Wednesday at the head of a delegation to hold talks with the Islamic republic's officials and leaders of the eight-party coalition of Afghan mujahidin.

Hikmatyar said that the topic of his talks with the representatives of the eight-party coalition would be the form and structure of the future government in Afghanistan upon which all mujahidin groups have agreed.

The world will surely witness the fact that all Afghan combatants will act unanimously at the political scene as they did during their struggle, he stressed.

On the resistance of Najibullah's government against mujahidin, Hikmatyar said "If the Soviet troops leave Afghanistan, Najib's government cannot continue its rule."

Besides being the representative of the seven-party alliance of the Afghan mujahidin, Hikmatyar is the head of Afghanistan's Islamic Party.

At the airport Hikmatyar was received by a number of representatives of the eight-party coalition as well as its spokesman Muhammad Karim Khalili, some of the Foreign Ministry officials, and officials from the Pakistani Embassy in Tehran.

## Majlis Seeks Death for Banker Guilty of Fraud

*LD2501172189 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 25, IRNA—A large number of Majlis deputies have called on Chief Justice Ayatollah 'Abdolkarim Musavi-Ardabili to approve the death ruling against the head of a private savings and loan organization.

In a petition signed by 160 deputies they urged the chief justice to take necessary steps "to confirm the sentence and expedite the announcement of the punishment ruling against the head of the Nabovvat Foundation."

On 28 December Ali Musazi was sentenced to death by the First Criminal Court which found him guilty of massive financial fraud. He was also ordered to pay rials 1.21 billion (dlrs 17.8 mn) to 17 creditors and receive 74 lashes for an illegitimate sexual act.

The verdict was passed on for further consideration to the Supreme Judicial Council chaired by Ayatollah Ardabili.

The Majlis petition said it was hoped Musavi's execution, if approved, would pave the way "for the uprooting of corrupt economic trends."

It also thanked Finance and Economics Minister Mohammad Javad Irvani and his assistants for uncovering Nabovvat alleged illegal practices.

Since Musavi was sentenced the officials of at least two other similar organizations which quickly grew in number after the revolution with the aim of providing non-profit loans to needy individuals have been tried and condemned.

Also the main KEYHAN and ETTELA'AT dailies have since published commentaries urging the Supreme Judicial Council to show its determination and stand against financial corruption by giving its consent to Musavi's execution.

The non-profit lending firms, which are mostly under the umbrella of the privately run Islamic Economic Organization [IEO] have also fought back stressing that the vast majority are doing legitimate business for the benefit of the poor.

An IEO official spoke before the main sermon at Tehran's last Friday prayers gathering explaining its various activities.

The firms got a boost last week when President 'Ali Khamene'i suspported the charitable essence of their work while calling on them to keep their operations within the law.

## Off-Shore Oil Fields Yielding 200,000 BPD

*LD2501173389 Tehran IRNA in English 1702 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 25, IRNA—Iran's off-shore oil fields are presently producing 200,000 barrels of crude a day following repair of some war-damaged oil installations in the Persian Gulf.

Mohammad Aqaie, managing director of the national off-shore oil company, said the figure shows the yields of only five oil fields located around the Khark Island—Iran's major oil exporting terminal—which were the targets of frequent Iraqi air attacks.

Before the 1980 Iraqi aggression, a total of 300,000 bpd used to be pumped from 14 off-shore oil fields, he said, and despite the heat of the war, Iranian experts discovered 5 new oil fields in the coastal waters of the Persian Gulf during 1985.

On the Iraqi-imposed war, he said that 20 Iranian wells located at Nowruz, Resalat, Reshadat and Sorush oil fields were attacked and set on fire several times by Iraqi warplaes and the U.S. Navy.

But shortly after every attack, Iranian oil experts swung into action extinguishing the blaze and capping the spill despite the risk of enemy air raids.

He predicted the output of Iran's off-shore fields was expected to reach half a million bpd within the next four years once the several projects underway by the Oil Ministry are completed.

## Musavi Interviewed on Trips to Poland, Italy

*LD2001194689 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Jan 89*

[Interview with Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi by unidentified correspondent upon Musavi's return from official visits to Italy and Poland; date and place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent] Mr Musavi, Your Excellency and the accompanying delegation visited Italy and Poland for 3 days. [as heard] Would you please tell us how you evaluate the trip?

[Musavi] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. This trip in fact was divided into three parts. One part was spent in Italy, where we met with the head of the World Catholics. Then we went to Poland. Overall it was a good trip. [passage omitted]

There were official exchanges of views on regional issues and European issues. They are sensitive about the war, the Afghanistan issue and the situations in Lebanon and the Middle East. We, in turn, are sensitive about UN and European issues. We held discussions on these issues. Italy has adopted a good position regarding Resolution 598. They are supporting the efforts of the UN secretary general. We described our position with respect to the war and Iraqi obstructionism. Some coordination took place here. [passage omitted]

We also met with the pope. It was a very interesting meeting. One of the highlights of the trip was this meeting. His excellency showed a good attitude and we had a very good meeting. Discussions began with the Islamic revolution and we explained that our revolution is one that returns the religious meaning to all social and political affairs and that all social activities can be reflected and carried out within religious dimensions.

We also discussed the activities of our country's Christians who have representatives in the Majlis and are respected. He referred to the letter by his holiness the imam and noted that according to his holiness the solution to the problems of the world hinges on true worship. I explained the position, noting that from the religious point of view there should be solutions to the problems of the world. I said that the oppressed, the deprived, and anyone else who is under the yoke of the superpowers, whether in Latin America, Asia, or Africa, should be protected by religion. The religious movement should take the vaccuum left behind as a result of the loss of support for the Marxist ideology and lack of any contents in the Western culture. He in turn stated that his views are similar to ours. [passage omitted]

After Italy we went to Poland. We have very good and friendly relations with Poland, a relationship which is one of the longest with a European country. The Poles are a cultured people who have suffered a lot, particulary during the past several centuries they have been targets of repeated massacres and slaughter. For example, they say that during World War II one out of every five Poles died. [passage omitted]

A considerable volume of our discussions centered on identifying their views on national reconstruction, since our country pays a great deal of attention to this and is sensitive to this because of our relationship with them and because of our long border with the Soviet Union. Thus, an understanding of the process of reconstruction is important to us. To implement our strong policies regarding East and West we must understand and evaluate such policies.

Fortunately this trip offered us a great deal of opportunities to discuss this and understand the nature of these policies. We also have a good volume of trade with them. However, we discussed and found ways of further expanding these. Their purchase of oil from us was not very high so we signed an agreement for purchase of 1 million tons of oil [as heard] and we discussed several economic issues including the purchase of fishing and container ships as well as a factory for production of heavy mining equipment. There is a project which has been under government review for several years and it

will be built in one of the townships. We have agreed that a Polish delegation will come to Iran next month to follow up the letter of understanding.

They showed a very positive and clear position regarding Resolution 598. As usual they showed sensitivity toward the Afghanistan issue, which is one that is important to both East and West and was noted in Italy and in Poland. Italy, as a member of the Common Market, has shown sensitivity toward the issue. They wanted to know if there was a possibility of Zahir Shah returning to Afghanistan. We explained what is going on in Afghanistan and the fact that it is making Zahir Shah's return to Afghanistan impossible. We expressed the need for the world to help Afghan groups maintain unity and thus allow the people of Afghanistan to control their destiny.

In Poland we also discussed the future of Afghanistan and [words indistinct] in Afghanistan. We discussed issues that have already been discussed at home. We had a meeting with the head of the Council of State Mr Jaruzelski. He expressed a great deal of interest in our country and was very aware of the developments in the region and in the Middle East. We had two lengthy sessions, an official and a private one, with their prime minister and a number of good letters of understanding were signed. We also attended a seminar. [words indistinct] It centred around two topics which were the reason for the meeting and it is something that our Foreign Ministry and anyone involved should be aware of and work on since both of them will affect our foreign policy, even our economy, and the Islamic Revolution in the future.

One is the European unity that will occur in 1992. This is something that started from a basic concept of a common market and is now getting to the point that in 1992 borders will be removed and capital and human resources can move around the region freely. It was clear during our discussions that Europe is going toward the creation of a united region with a single political system that adopts a united foreign policy and we must pay a great deal of attention to this since it will strongly affect our future plans. It was agreed that further discussions in this respect will be carried out in Iran [words indistinct]. [passage omitted]

The second issue was in relations to the developments of the East and socialist bloc. [words indistinct] very extensive and varied issues. Considering the discussions we had with the officials of the East bloc, including my discussions with the prime ministers of Poland and Hungary as well as the Polish head of state, and overall as noted in the letter of his holiness the imam, such decisions can [word indistinct] of commerce and politics around the world and our country must pay attention to it. The development in various socialist countries is going on but not at the same level and there are various positions. [passage omitted]

Aside from this some cultural discussions took place. They like our country a lot and have a very strong body of Iranian experts and the university in their old capital [words indistinct] and we have decided to send them a dictionary. [passage indistinct]

### Musavi Comments on Anti-Narcotics Law, Campaign

*LD2101125489 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Jan 89*

[Text] Following today's cabinet session, Prime Minister Musavi commented on the new law for combatting narcotics. He said: the implementation of this law begins today. As a result of the decisions made at the anti-narcotics headquarters, judicial and executive organizations throughout the country will implement the law with full coordination. He added: In this connection, the government and judiciary require the ever-present people's assistance. Information about smugglers is especially important for security organizations, no matter how small the information may be. Musavi noted: The people want us to act decisively against these merchants of death. That is also the spirit of the law, and all responsible organizations, be they judicial or executive, have the duty to act decisively in this battle.

The prime minister added: In order to return to society's fold, drug addicts must rapidly overcome their addiction. Families must help save their addicted children and assist them in giving up their addiction. They must also help expose smugglers.

Referring to the activities of the anti-narcotics headquarters, Musavi stressed: The headquarter's activity will continue in an organized manner, and the measures approved by the headquarters must be implemented, according to the law, by the relevant executive judicial organizations.

### Khamene'i, Musavi Brief Cabinet Meeting

*LD2101160389 Tehran IRNA in English 1500 GMT 21 Jan 89*

[Text] Tehran, Jan 21 IRNA—President 'Ali Khamene'i today apprised the cabinet of the importance of a strong and efficient administrative system and cautioned against ignoring of discrepancies however small at government organisations.

Presiding over the cabinet session, he said "the people should be kept abreast of the government's decision to deal with violaters and those abusing their positions in administrative organizations."

During the session, Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi, who returned home from a five-day tour of Italy and Poland yesterday, briefed the cabinet on the outcome of his talks with Italian and Polish officials on mutual ties and international issues.

The cabinet later heard President Khamene'i on his recent tour of Lorestan and Kurdistan provinces.

Khamene'i, lauding Lorestan residents for their faith in Islam and the Islamic revolution and for their heroic acts during the Iraqi-imposed war, called on the government to solve problems facing this under-privileged province.

On his visit to Kurdistan, Khamene'i said that Iranian Kurds' warm enthusiasm for the Islamic republic has not only disapproved the nonsensical propaganda in the name of "Kurdish masses" but has frustrated all groups backed by global arrogance.

### Montazeri Sends Letter to Lebanese Scholars

*LD2001132889 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Jan 89*

[Text] In connection with the continuing bloody clashes between the Islamic Hizballah organization and the Amal Movement in Lebanon; the weaking of Islamic resistance in that country; and a letter sent by a group of Lebanese scholars and thinkers resident in the Qom seminary to the deputy leader of shari'a, bearing in mind the blow which has been inflicted on the Lebanese Islamic resistance; a message from Grand Ayatollah Montazeri addressed to Lebanese scholars and thinkers has been published. The text of the letter is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. To the Hojjaj ol-Eslam, the distinguished and honorable Lebanese scholars and thinkers resident in the Qom seminary. May your blessings increase. After greetings and salutations, the letter from the distinguished gentlemen expressing regret about the battles and brother-slaying inside Lebanon, which would upset any one who has a conscience, was received.

As I have repeatedly said, one of the dangerous conspiracies of world Zionism and the United States in the region is the weakening of and blows inflicted against the Islamic resistance of Lebanon and Palestine. And the main aim behind the intensification of religious and group disputes, the bloody clashes that have taken place in the past between Palestinians and certain Lebanese factions, and those which are taking place in Lebanon today is precisely that weakening of the Islamic resistance front and the fulfillment of Israeli and American aims in that region.

For that reason, all mojahedin and resistant Lebanese brothers, regardless of the faction or group to which they belong, and especially the eminent high-ranking ulema and combatant clergymen, must pay attention to their sensitive position and to the secret decisions of the Zionists, the United States, and their agents in the region for destroying Islamic resistance in Lebanon and in occupied Palestine.

They must recognize that any clashes, battles, and blood-spilling or any indifference towards those things is clearly a forbidden act and against the holy shari'a. And, in accordance with reason and shari'a, it is incumbent on any group or power which believes in Islam and in jihad in the path of God to strive towards bringing that bloody confrontation to an end. And the honorable authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran, may their shadows be exalted, must also try more than ever and by various means to act seriously and with the assistance and cooperation of the Islamic country of Syria, and with the coordination of the eminent ulema of Lebanon, may their blessings continue. They must not accept the continued spilling of innocent blood; the weakening of Islamic resistance in the face of blasphemy and Zionism; or the withdrawal of the trust of Lebanese strugglers and mojahedin.

It is also expected that the brother country of Syria, which is situated on the frontline and which has sustained so many blows from usurping Israel, will support resistant Muslim brothers in Palestine and in Lebanon more than ever before. And it is expected that the honorable and eminent ulema in Lebanon will strive, with unity and coordination, along the path of leading the heroic nation of Lebanon and of maintaining the unity of the country. And all Islamic countries and nations must not refrain from political, spiritual, and financial support for the resistant Muslim brothers in Lebanon and Palestine.

I pray to exalted God for success for everyone in maintaining unity of expression; performing all Islamic duties; undertaking the jihad in the path of God; and in defeating the conspiracies of the enemies of Islam. May God's peace and mercy be upon you.

[Dated] 19 January 1989

[Signed] Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri

### Khamene'i on Venezuelan Official's Visit, OPEC

*LD1901114689 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 18 Jan 89*

[Interview with President Khamene'i by unidentified correspondent; date, place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] Mr Khamene'i, the visit of the Venezuelan president [-elect] to the Middle East region has been described as an effort for greater unity and collaboration among OPEC members. Please let us know your views about his efforts, and the future effect of the unity and collaboration of OPEC members in the organization?

[Khamene'i] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. This goal of harmonization of OPEC has been raised by many OPEC members over a long period of time. It is an important goal which will have a decisive role in the fate of the organization. He is making extensive efforts,

and visited a number of countries before coming to Tehran. He is pursuing the goal of greater coordination among OPEC members in their future plans, activities, and efforts to stabilize prices, to bring them to a just level, to fix quotas, and to abide by them.

We have also made many efforts in this field in the past, through messages to and numerous meetings with OPEC members. His move is a good and useful move, and we regard it as something positive. In his meetings held during the short but fruitful and concentrated period he spent in Tehran, we had extensive discussions on this issue. It was made clear that our views and the views of the president-elect of Venezuela are extremely close, and it was very easy to reach understanding with him regarding the issues connected with OPEC and with oil issues.

We also had good discussions on bilateral relations, and on paving the ground for joint cooperation in economic, technical and commercial fields. We also had useful discussions on international political issues. His views about the Nonaligned Movement are very close and similar to ours. They are the same as the ideas we have always expressed regarding the Nonaligned Movement's activities to make its actions more serious, and to unite the Third World so that it can protect itself from great storms and waves created by the big powers. He also raised exactly the same issues; and when we referred to them he agreed with them. We also had some good discussions regarding world politics and international issues. In all fields, as he also said, we reached agreement.

I think that the future relations of Iran and Venezuela will be assured, and that the future of these relations will be very good. We can have a great deal of cooperation in all fields—oil, economic, technical, and political. The Venezuelan president-elect is a positive, hard-working, and serious person, and we had very good and positive discussions.

### Daily Comments on Khomeyni Letter to Gorbachev

*LD2001102189 Tehran IRNA in English 1848 GMT 19 Jan 89*

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 19, IRNA—The Persian daily ETTALA'AT in a commentary Thursday reviewed the topics in Imam Khomeyni's letter to Mikhail Gorbachev saying that once the lofty ideals of Islam and Islamic philosophy are presented to scholars with different ideological background and to advocates of opposing ideals they are likely to appreciate the Islamic thought according to their intellectual capacity.

The following is the text of the commentary.

"The imam has been realistic in the true sense of the word, and has therefore commended Gorbachev's brave initiative for going beyond the dogmatic principles of Marxism in the area of ideology (materialism) as well as economy (communism), and he has encouraged him to extend the relative religious liberties in general including such liberties in the predominantly Muslim republics of the Soviet Union.

"The imam has emphasized on the need for combating the 70-year-old atheist practices and irreligious propaganda in that country since during the past few decades the practice has caused the Soviet people to challenge the inherent nature of mankind whereas it is obvious that man cannot fight the divine laws. The policy has also created an extra financial burden on the shoulder of the Soviet Government due to the expenditures for launching anti-religion campaigns in that country.

"Lenin went such a long way in that direction so as to blame Maksim Gorkiy for having referred to some form of religion and progressive mundane spirituality, and warned him against showing a good opinion towards the presence of even revolutionary clerics against the Russian tsar, because—in Lenin's opinion—a progressive religion is a graver danger than the reactionary religion.

"The imam has warned Gorbachev against steering a course away from the communist and materialistic dogmatism by substituting the ruling Western ideology and Western capitalism in its place.

"Unfortunately in the past few years the United States and the Soviet Union have reversed their previous outlooks and switched to mutual cooperation in many significant areas to the detriment of the Third World nations. The imam addresses the Soviet leaders by saying that if in their own judgement they mean to revaluate their traditional stands and learn from the past then rather than seeking to get close to the big Satan they should try to come close to the nations known as the Third World.

"The imam has called on the Soviet officials to study other religions and ideologies. The imam has not stopped short of inviting the Soviet officials but has also reminded them that he relies on a rich ideological and philosophical resource and that he is writing to them as a person equipped with the knowledge of that kind.

"Once the lofty philosophical and esoteric thoughts, in the words of our (martyr) scholar Morteza Motahari, as well as other topics in Islamic philosophy are presented to judicious and truth-seeking scholars and offerred help to undersand those topics then they will learn the greatness and empiricality of this religion according to their intellectual capacity, and many are the people who will consequently stand out from the rest of their own society."

In his message to Mikhail Gorbachev on January 4 the imam invited him to study the thought and works of such great Islamic scholars as Avicenna, Abu Nassr Farabi and others and reminded him frankly that in his

judgement the root of all social and political and economic problems in the Soviet Union can be traced back to the official anti-religious ideology in that country and domination of a political and social ideology which negates God, divinity, and divine values.

**Larijani on Foreign Policy, Reconstruction**
*PM2001163389 Tehran RESALAT in Persian 25 Dec 88 pp 3, 8*

[Interview with Mohammad Javad Larijani, Foreign Ministry's deputy in charge of Europe and America; date, place not given]

[Text] [RESALAT] With the negotiations between Iran and Iraq at a stalemate, how does Iran plan to get the negotiations on Resolution 598 going again?

[Larijani] Our policy has not changed from the start. We believe that the two countries should cooperate within the framework of Resolution 598. We also believe that the main reason for the stalemate is Iraq's refusal to limit itself to the framework of the resolution, to continue talks. Of course, it cannot openly admit to this obstructionism because this would be condemned by the world.

In practical terms, Iraq has not accepted or behaved in accordance with any of the agendas prepared by the UN secretary general. This is an insult to international regulations, and it has slowed down the work.

With regard to the exchange of sick prisoners, Iraq did not cooperate according to the agreements reached in Geneva and this Iraqi action has caused problems in that area. As far as we are concerned, there is one solution and that is that Iraq should and must obey the resolution and cooperate according to the plans put forward by the secretary general for the resolution's implementation. Resolution 598 is a means to peace and stability in the region, not to define borders and not for Iraq to gain bonus points. What Iraq did not gain from the war will not be gained through negotiations, even though they may take years to complete.

The region's peace and security was destroyed when Iraq attacked Iran on 22 September 1980. Iraq is responsible for the tension in this area, the result of which will be felt for a long time. Of course, the Islamic Republic of Iran is trying to return a sense of security to the region as soon as possible. Iraq's obstructionisms with regard to Resolution 598 are a blow to peace. Different countries in the world are opposed to these Iraqi tactics.

[RESALAT] The UN secretary general may travel to Iran and Iraq. Are there any plans to break the current deadlock in the talks?

[Larijani] There have been indications of a possible trip, but we have no details on its purpose or agenda. In any case, our general policy is to safeguard our basic principles and to cooperate fully with the secretary general.

[RESALAT] You said regional peace and security were destroyed by Iraq. But other elements are involved as well. Keeping in mind that these elements may still be strong, what will Iran do to safeguard security in the region?

[larijani] Plans for regional security, especially after the war, are vital. During World War I, not enough provisions were made for European peace, and World War II started. In general, one of the reasons World War II broke out was because of the very way World War I ended. Since World War II, not only has there been no war in Europe for 40 years, but there is great deal of cooperation in Europe.

We do not mean to compare that situation with our own here, but it is important to remember that we must end the war with exact provisions to prevent another clash of any type in the future. We have certain policies for our own region, especially the Persian Gulf, which we follow.

Our regional doctrine is based on several points. The first principle is that Persian Gulf security is a coordinated and regional matter. By regional, we mean it has nothing to do with foreign powers. By coordinated, we mean no one is allowed to play the role of policeman. This area must be made secure with the cooperation and coordination of all Persian Gulf countries.

The second principle is that the region must be safe from the aggression of one country in the area against another. Respect for each other's sovereignty and rule and noninterference in one another's affairs make up the basic groundwork for this policy.

Iraq has border disputes with Iran, which, in fact, have been resolved. Not only that, Iraq has border problems and disputes with all its neighbors, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Syria, and Turkey. The same is true for other countries in the region: Saudi Arabia with North Yemen and the UAE, Bahrain with Qatar, and in general all the countries have these problems. If aggression were the solution to these matters, there would never be security in this region. We are a powerful nation and we have no worries about our own borders. When we say the sovereignty of all nations must be safeguarded, we are speaking from a position of power.

Even Iraq regrets attacking Iran. Before the war, Iraq was a country with $35 billion in hard currency reserves. Today, after the war, it is a country with a $100-billion debt. It lost hundreds of thousands dead and several hundreds of thousands wounded.

The third principle in this doctrine is "development in the region through cooperation." The Persian Gulf is a rich area. It has underground resources, oil and gas, and sea resources. It is a major waterway, rich in natural

resources. We believe that with regional economic, scientific and trade cooperation, the area could be developed, so that all the countries can use their own resources.

Our final principle is the adoption of a sound and coordinated OPEC policy, because OPEC's responsibility lies in the hands of this region. The area countries must cooperate to adopt a unified OPEC policy in order to safeguard our interests and those of other oil-producing nations. These principles to a certain extent can provide regional security.

[RESALAT] You said the area's security has nothing to do with foreign powers, but the reality is that foreign powers, especially the United States, have military bases in this region. On the other hand, you have ignored the foreign influence on other countries in this region. Also, Iraq has damaged many of the principles you have just mentioned. It perhaps carries on in its own way as a destabilizing factor in regard to these principles.

Iraq at the moment is occupying 1,000 km of our land. If the negotiations do not continue, this occupation perhaps will continue. More important, a three-dimentional policy exists in the region: Iran, Iraq, and the GCC. Closeness and cooperation and development and coordination among the three are impossible, unless some basic policy changes occur in these countries. Keeping all of this in mind, how do you view the region's security?

[larijani] The present situation is not an ideal one for the area. The main issue is that we want to move toward an ideal situation. We know the problems in the way. There are U.S. troops in the area, there also are forces from other countries, but the American troops are the most unsuccessful, both in terms of security and because they are a real and major threat to the region. In principle we believe this should be a nonmilitary zone, in the technical meaning of the word. We would even like it to be a nonnuclear zone.

The influence of foreign troops is one of the most disastrous and damaging factors in the Islamic world. Its every corner is under the control of one or another heretic regime. None of these facts is hidden to us and we do not consider the present conditions ideal. We believe there is a solution, albeit a difficult one. Decreasing the presence of foreign troops and increasing internal cooperation will increase security in the region.

[RESALAT] Is the area ready to reduce the level of the American presence?

[Larijani] Some countries in the area think their political life depends on the U.S. presence. We believe they are making a mistake. If the purpose of the U.S. presence is to rid those countries of foreign aggressors, there is no need for that. One can get rid of such foreign threats through a coordinated move. If the Americans are there to protect the regimes from internal strife, this action would only provoke the local people. It would be best for these regimes to distance themselves from the United States, at least in front of their own people. Of course, there are other countries with less dependence. Our policy is sound and logical. If the people in those countries are logical and smart, they will accept our policy.

[RESALAT] Does this sensibleness exist with regard to our diplomatic versus our reconstruction policies?

[Larijani] Of course, diplomacy is linked to reconstruction. The link is: First, we set a general policy for reconstruction, then we put diplomacy to work toward this purpose. We cannot have diplomacy dictating the kind of reconstruction needed. It is most important that we define our reconstruction as soon as possible. It is getting late. We must also use the opportunities available to us in the world, in accordance with those policies.

[RESALAT] Following the acceptance of Resolution 598, many delegations from several countries came to Iran to present their proposals. However, because there was no clear policy for reconstruction, no major decisions were made.

[Larijani] True, these delegations came to Iran, but it cannot be said that there were no results. There was a good deal of success of varying degrees for the two sides. The most obvious reason for success is that these countries believe that Iran is a powerful nation and a rich country with a great deal of resources for its own reconstruction.

Islamic Iran, with a population of 50 million, with all its underground wealth, has no debt. This is a sound economic basis. The foreigners make suggestions from which we select what we think will serve our purposes best. But we must admit that our reconstruction policy must be strengthened and expanded as soon as possible. The imam has defined the policy framework. Officials have defined other details. This policy must be completed as soon as possible.

[RESALAT] The recent movement in Iran's relations with the East and the West—including your own trip to several countries in Eastern and Western Europe—isn't this part of what is termed diplomatic and political reconstruction?

[Larijani] "Diplomatic reconstruction" is not a correct phrase, because our diplomatic moves started some 2 years before accepting the resolution and was moving forward with a special purpose. It would be better to use the term "active and successful diplomacy". Our diplomacy was going forth with the same old principles but has recently become more active.

Some people wrongly say Iran's diplomacy changed after the resolution. Iran's relations with the East and the West expanded before the resolution. Our relations with

Canada and France, even our talks with the British, and other agreements date back to before the resolution. After the war, of course, we shall adopt a peacetime strategy. Our relations with other countries are widespread and hold a great deal for the future. The main reasons for this are our power and independence. No one in the world decides for us and we are one of the few Third World countries that can afford to do that. As far as our independence goes, our position is similar to that of the major powers. No power on earth can tell us what to do, and this is one of our greatest sources of pride.

The second reason is our power, meaning that we are a potentially powerful nation. All the countries in the world know that Islamic Iran has everything at hand to become a prosperous, free, developed country in terms of science, industry, and culture. It has wealth and manpower comparable to the whole of the Middle East. It has credibility in the world and in Islamic circles. Everything we have is special. Our religious beliefs are special, our leadership is unique. With logic and power, we have managed to present an active diplomacy to the world.

Naturally, we cannot ignore our shortcomings, failures, or mistakes. Our report card, like everyone else's, has successes and failures. We never claim to be totally successful.

[RESALAT] The term "diplomatic reconstruction" was used because during the war the main parameter in our foreign policy was war. But during peacetime, our policy has not yet been defined, or at least it has not been announced. On the other hand, after the war ties were expanded more with the West whereas before the war they were leading to the East.

[Larijani] I feel this business of West or East is not correct. We lean neither to the East nor the West. Our relations are the same. In fact, our relations with the Eastern bloc and the Soviet Union itself have changed dramatically and will increase even more in the future.

Our ties with the West also have increased as have our ties with China, Japan, and Africa. So, we have to view these relations in a general way. Our relations with some Western countries have had a great deal of coverage in the press because of their reactions. For example, Western countries see our ties with France and Britain as having special importance, but this is their understanding. Our foreign relations can be viewed in a general sort of way.

[RESALAT] The foreign ministers of the Soviet Union and Britain recently sent messages to Mr Velayati. Has there been a special change in our relations with these nations?

[Larijani] The messages received from several foreign ministers from various important countries were replies to Mr Velayati's messages explaining our position in the peace negotiations with Iraq. Our understanding from these messages is that the world is not happy with the policy of obstructionism in the talks. The world supports progress in the talks and wants the UN secretary general to conclude his work within the framework of the Resolution 598. We are very pleased with these messages. [passage illegible]

[RESALAT] Since the Soviet troops have not yet pulled out of Afghanistan, could this be a trick to boost the morale of the Soviet troops, especially since the Soviets ordered a cease-fire so that the talks could continue?

[Larijani] We believe the Soviet troops should leave according to the set timetable. Prolonging this issue will not in any way help the Soviet position in Afghanistan, and is even damaging to a final solution for the Afghan problem. The Soviets themselves know the withdrawal of their troops is in their interest in any case.

[RESALAT] The United Nations reportedly has put aside $1 billion for reconstruction in Afghanistan. Is it true that the United Nations has asked Iran and Pakistan to help and take over this matter? Is this true?

[Larijani] Of course, it is great if the United Nations puts something aside for reconstruction work in Afghanistan. Afghanistan is a country destroyed by 8 years of war. Millions of homes have been destroyed and its people made homeless refugees. We of course will help in the reconstruction of Afghanistan. Iran has always helped Afghanistan. Now just how much we can help is up to the government to decide at the right time.

[RESALAT] Does Iran agree to a coalition of the mujahidin and the present regime in Kabul for a future government in Afghanistan?

[Larijani] Our view is that of the Afghan people, which must be respected. The mujahidin have quite a lot of influence among the people. Thus, if at any time there is a government without the participation of the mujahidin, it will not have too much support or backing from the people. There is no reason why the Afghan people should want members of the present regime in Kabul to take part in any future government.

[RESALAT] Sebghatullah Mojadeddi, one of the moderate Afghan leaders recently made a trip to Iran. Was there a special reason?

[Larijani] The Afghan mujahidin have made several trips to Iran. Mr Rabbani has traveled to Iran many times, and will do so in the future. We have always supported the mujahidin, and perhaps this has been the Afghan resistance's most steadfast support.

[RESALAT] It is said that this was the first time a pro-Western Afghan leader had come to Iran.

[Larijani] The mujahidin have many factions, and this is one of their problems. Mr Rabbani who traveled to the United States once—should be labeled like this? We look upon the mujahidin in general terms and we respect their sacrifices.

[RESALAT] What is the view of the Islamic Republic on the formation of an independent Palestinian state?

[Larijani] On the one hand, we support the formation of a Palestinian state and, on the other, we do not recognize the regime that has occupied that land and that commits crimes. Of course a Palestinian regime must govern that entire land, a regime where Muslims, Jews, and Christians can all fit in. It should not be a Jewish regime that does not have room for everyone and only now is prepared to give an extra piece of land to the Palestinians—which in itself is highly unlikely.

[RESALAT] Do you think it would be enough if a future government without a Jewish identity were formed there?

[Larijani] It is not enough not just to have a Jewish identity. It must be a regime under which the Jews would not have the right to veto. It must be a regime under which Jews, Christians, and Muslims all enjoy their own rights.

[RESALAT] In that case, what sort of identity would this country have?

[Larijani] The identity is up to the people themselves. It is obvious that if what we say happens, it definitely would not have a Jewish identity.

[RESALAT] Many of these areas have been occupied by Jews. Could they have a role in a future regime?

[Larijani] This is a very technical question. We are against occupation. First of all, we must look into the occupation, pain, and suffering caused the Palestinian people and we must return the land that belonged to them. The question is how. I feel it is far too early to discuss this. The groundwork is not prepared for this. In any case, it is not up to us to do this. The Palestinian people or those who fight for Palestine must answer that question.

[RESALAT] Do we believe that the land of Palestine will have an Islamic identity?

[Larijani] If Muslims are the majority there will be a Muslim identity. Identity is not a stamp that can be placed on any given country. Islamic identity is a quality that comes to the land.

[RESALAT] At the moment, with about 3 million Jews living there, there is doubt about the Muslims being in the majority.

[Larijani] It is doubtful that should be the case. If allowed the Palestinians would return to their homes within a few weeks. No one is happy to leave their home, especiallly if it is dear Palestine.

[RESALAT] Obtaining loans from outside recently has being discussed. How do you feel about this? What do you think is the best system for taking loans: buy-back, straight loan, or higher purchase?

[Larijani] This is something you will have to ask the experts. The advantages depend on our situation. A loan is money placed at the disposal of Iran to spend as it likes, that is, the straight loan. Other types of loans have to be spent in specific areas, for example, those given by the World Bank or the IMF. They not only tell you how to spend the money, they even have specific ideas about the country's economic system.

The higher purchase is a system whereby you buy something now and pay back in 1 year's time. Of course, if you do not then have the money to pay back, interest will be very high. All this occurs while you borrow the money in accordance with a special contract and a special rate of interest.

The buy back system is completely different. You make a deal with a country or a company to produce something in Iran, sell some of it abroad, and then use some of the money as primary investments.

Whether one of these is better than others is not a stable factor and depends on our policy. My own view is that the fewer loans we take out the better it is. This means that choosing a foreign loan should be left for very special cases, as a last choice. We should take care as to where we get the loan—where there is the least commitment.

The reality is that reconstruction does not start abroad. Unfortunately, as soon as there is talk of reconstruction, there is immediately talk of buy back, loans and higher purchase, as if reconstruction must be imported from abroad. Reconstruction is an internal policy in Iran.

In the course of Iran's development into a prosperous Islamic country, we will have relations with other countries. There will be aid in the form of science, technical and industrial cooperation, and perhaps sometimes financial commitments for needed projects. We must really choose the right path for our own internal role, what type of economic system we should have and how far the people can participate to use their resources. What do we mean by the private sector? We still have special visions of the private and public sectors. We have somehow connected these visions to social justice.

There are still special economic models and activity inside the country so this is an area that has to be clarified. We have to see how we are going to construct the country after the war. We have to look at other countries as possible models. For example, the Soviet

Union had a period of reconstruction after World War II, so did Czechoslovakia and other socialist countries like China. They had some results, and, of course, they had some problems as well. On the other hand, the West European countries also had a period of reconstruction after the war. Do we want to choose one of these two models? The systems controlled by governments seem to have had more problems and are in the process of changing their policies. For example, it has been announced in the Soviet Union that foreign companies can now have a 50 percent share in investments.

I believe that this discussion is completely basic and fundamental. This issue has to be clarified completely and we must not play games. There is a certain amount of "not telling the whole truth" and the people do not express their thoughts completely. In practice, they all try to impose their own ideas and this is not correct. We must define our policies for future years. Otherwise, if we change our policies every day, we will get nowhere.

[RESALAT] It seems that putting limits on the people's participation is not exactly copying the Eastern model and that there must be other reasons. An Eastern bloc prime minister who recently visited Iran said his country considered a 25 percent share of the trade for its private sector. The question is: So far we have used the higher purchase method and because of this we have debts to other countries. Is it good to continue this method?

[Larijani] Of course this is not the best method, especially not the best method after a war, unless there is a real emergency. The best way is to base our programs on a proper financial basis from the beginning. We have a stable oil income and we could have a stable gas income and, during a 10-year period, gradually undertake heavy projects.

[RESALAT] The Soviet Union is busy digging and exploring for oil in the Caspian sea. On the other hand, there is agreement for the sale of Iranian gas to the Soviet Union. At what stage is the oil exploration? Isn't this what the Soviets have always been after, even before the days of the first Constitution in 1906?

[Larijani] The question of Russian oil exploration in the Caspian Sea is not a recent matter. The Soviets have rights in some parts of the sea and we have our own rights in our parts. The use of the Caspian Sea is based on a protocol, which is bound by the shore and also the limits of the shoreline. According to the existing agreement, we can dig for oil in our own waters. This is something that has to do with the Oil Ministry which has perhaps started to work on this. Of course, there is not much oil in the Caspian sea.

With regard to natural gas, there is a protocol between the two countries that specifies exports of 2 to 3 billion cubic meters of gas to the Soviet Union, to be increased at a later time. Of course the pipeline is not just for the use of exporting gas to the Soviet Union. Many clients are waiting to use the pipeline.

[RESALAT] Is the Soviet Union going to participate in the exploration of oil on our soil?

[Larijani] Like other companies, our oil companies sometimes use foreign oil companies to explore for oil. This depends on a set of rules. They usually put it up for bid and whoever wins, is chosen. Our oil industry is advanced and self-sufficient in many aspects of oil exploration, except perhaps in the area of equipment.

### Defense Minister in Gabon for Arms Exhibit

*LD2201145789 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Jan 89*

[Text] Defense Minister Brig Gen Jalali left for Gabon today to attend the International Arms and Safety Equipment Exhibition at the invitation of his Gabonese counterpart.

According to an IRNA report, before leaving Tehran the defense minister said that the exhibition will be held on 23-29 January in Gabon. The Islamic Republic of Iran is the only Asian country taking part.

The defense minister said that some military equipment made by our committed expert personnel in Iran will be exhibited.

### Naval Vessels To Visit African, Asian Ports

*LD2401141089 Tehran IRNA in English 1401 GMT 24 Jan 89*

[Text] Bandar-e 'Abbas, Hormuzgan Prov., Jan. 24, IRNA—Three logistic vessels of Iran's first naval fleet left for Asian and African ports on a friendly visit Monday.

The voyage is part of the 7th course of scientific and technical navigation training for naval cadets. In the first stage of the 2-month long round trip, the cadets will visit domestic ports and islands and then venture out into the Indian Ocean to call at several Asian and African ports.

### Iran To Set Up Shipping Line With Qatar

*LD2201102489 Tehran IRNA in English 0920 GMT 22 Jan 89*

[Text] Tehran, Jan 22 IRNA—A joint Iran-Qatar shipping company is soon to be established for carrying cargo and possibly passengers between Iran's Persian Gulf port city of Bushehr and Doha of Qatar.

The shipping service will cut by 30 percent shipping costs of Iranian products to that destination. Iranian exports to Qatar are currently shipped through Dubayy, the United Arab Emirates. Iran's major exports to Qatar will be fresh fruits and vegetables and live cattle.

The agreement was reached in Doha Saturday between an Iranian delegation in Qatar and officials of that country. The visiting Iranian delegation is led by Iran's Deputy Commerce Minister Mojtaba Khosrow-Taj.

### IRGC Minister Arrives in Islamabad for Talks

*LD2101095389 Tehran IRNA in English 0710 GMT 21 Jan 89*

[Text] Islamabad, Jan. 21, IRNA—Minister of Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) 'Ali Shamkhani arrived here Friday night heading a military-parliamentary delegation. He was welcomed at the airport by Pakistani state minister for defence affairs and several other military officials.

Shamkhani and his accompanying delegation are to discuss issues of mutual interest with Pakistani political and military officials.

### Industries Minister Leaves for Talks in GDR

*LD2101095789 Tehran IRNA in English 0742 GMT 21 Jan 89*

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 21, IRNA—Minister of Industries Gholam Reza Shafe'i left Tehran for German Democratic Republic at the head of a delegation Saturday morning to attend third session of Tehran-East Berlin joint economic commission.

A letter of understanding is to be concluded at the end of the session.

The session is to deal with bilateal cooperation in the fields of industry, metals and mines, heavy industries and energy.

Talks will also be held on trade cooperation and export of Iranian non-oil goods to German Democratic Republic.

### Office of Special Investigations Formed

*LD2101180589 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1600 GMT 21 Jan 89*

[Text] The Supreme Judicial Council has issued separate circulars for the Friday prayers leaders, governors-general, governors, Majlis representatives, and offices affiliated with the judiciary and the Islamic Revolutionary Courts, in which it announces the establishment of an office of the Supreme Judicial council in charge of special investigations and requests that they cooperate with the new office.

The Supreme Judicial Council also has called on those in charge of carrying out judicial matters to collaborate with the Supreme Judicial Council's Office of Special Investigations by reporting any illegal activities on the part of their staffs which take place in the judicial constituencies.

### High-Level Meeting Adopts Decision on Executions

*TA2001174889 (Clandestine) Iran's Flag of Freedom Radio in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Jan 89*

[Text] Reports from Tehran indicate that the Islamic Republic regime detained and imprisoned a number of people who had returned to Iran from the United States and Europe upon receiving safety letters from Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri and his office. Reportedly some of these prisoners have already been executed, and the remainder too are being threatened with execution or confiscation of property.

Another report about the recent executions in the Islamic Republic regime indicates that the decision on executing thousands of political prisoners was made at a meeting attended by 'Abdolkarim Musavi-Ardabili, 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, Ahmad Khomeyni, Mohammad Mohammadi, Reyshahri, and several others. This meeting was held in the presence of Ruhollah Khomeyni following the attacks by Mojahedin-e Khalq, backed by the Iraqi Army, against Ilam and Gilan-e Gharb.

At this meeting, 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani and 'Abdolkarim Musavi-Ardabili told Khomeyni that mojahedin members who were captured in these operations had previously been in the Islamic Republic's prisons and were released after repenting. Therefore, we do not trust other prisoners who are now in prisons and who have either completed or are on the verge of completing their prison terms. We believe that they will immediately begin to act against the regime following their release.

At the conclusion of discussions in this connection, it was decided that the political prisoners should not remain alive.

It is stressed in this report that the number of prisoners executed on the order of Ruhollah Khomeyni himself, in the wake of this meeting, ranges from 12,000 to 14,000 persons. The execution of political opponents has continued in recent weeks as well.

## Pakistan

### Kabul Protests on Border Violations Dismissed

*BK2601024989 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 26 89*

[Text] Pakistan has dismissed the protest by the Kabul regime that alleged that a jet aircraft of the Pakistan Air Force entered the Spin Tanay region of Qandahar Province on 18 January and returned after flying over Towr Kowtal and Takhta Pul.

Pakistan has also dismissed the protest of Kabul regime which alleged that personnel of the Pakistan Armed Forces had entered Walsawali Koshta in Nangarhar Province on 11 January.

Pakistan has dismissed one more protest of the Kabul regime that two Pakistani helicopters with a few mujahidin and foreign advisers entered the Yasin Baba area on 17 January.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office and told that all these allegations had been investigated and found to be baseless. He was asked to tell the Kabul regime to refrain from leveling such fabricated allegations.

### Over 164 Pakistanis Die in Afghan Attacks

*BK2601111789 Hong Kong AFP in English 1056 GMT 29 Jan 89*

[Text] Islamabad, Jan 26 (AFP)—More than 164 Pakistanis have died in ground and air attacks by Afghan forces and in Kabul-sponsored acts of sabotage since the Geneva peace accords went into force in May, the Foreign Office said Thursday.

Some 384 Pakistanis have been wounded since the two countries signed U.N.-brokered accords April 14 to end the nine-year-old Soviet military presence in Afghanistan and cease hostilities between Islamabad and Kabul.

Under the accord, being monitored by the United Nations Good Offices Mission for Afghanistan and Pakistan (UNGOMAP), the Soviets are to pull out their estimated 115,000 troops by February 15.

A Foreign [Office] spokesman told newsmen here that Afghan aircraft had made 134 incursions into Pakistani air space until January 1, killing 29 people and wounding 53 in bombings and strafings.

In cross border ground attacks, Afghan forces killed 31 people and injured 94, he said.

The spokesman charged that Afghan-sponsored acts of terrorism against Pakistan were continuing despite the peace accords, with at least 94 people killed and 237 wounded in 147 sabotage incidents until January 1.

Pakistan has brought 642 complaints to the attention of the United Nations and UNGOMAP officials, the spokesman said.

He dismissed a spate of protests from Kabul charging Pakistan with violations of the Geneva Accords, saying "all these accusations were frivolous."

The Foreign [Office] spokesman welcomed a statement from Moscow Wednesday that no Soviet troops would be left in Afghanistan after the February 15 [deadline]. "We welcome the announcement and hope the deadline is met," he said.

Commenting on reports that Soviet advisers would stay behind, he said that under the accords, withdrawal meant the pullout of all forces. "It covers civilian advisers also."

Pakistan had no knowledge of reports that the withdrawing troops were laying fresh mines in vacated areas, the spokesman said.

Reports from Western diplomats and resistance sources said between three and five million mines had been planted in the countryside, border regions and around vital installations and entry points to cities by the Soviet-Afghan troops in the course of the nine-year war with anti-communist rebels.

U.N. experts had been assigned to train Afghans in demining, including identification of types of mines and measures to defuse these bombs, he said.

Under the arrangement, Afghan refugees would be trained in demining and would in turn become instructors, he said.

### Afghan 'Violations' Detailed

*BK2601112689 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Text] Kabul forces committed 495 air and ground violations of Geneva accords during 6 and ½ months since the 15th of May last year. An official spokesman told newsmen in Islamabad today that there were 134 air violations and 361 ground violations. Fifty persons lost their lives as a result of the violations and 147 were injured. The violations of the Geneva accords have been brought to the notice of the United Nations and the United Nations Good Offices Mission for Afghanistan and Pakistan.

### Commentary Welcomes Bush Inaugural Remarks

*BK2201084289 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 21 Jan 89*

[Syed Nazir Bukhari commentary]

[Text] Mr George Bush has taken the oath of office as the new President of the United States of America and has succeeded Ronald Reagan at the helm of U.S. power. His assuming office has ended the eventful 8 years of President Reagan, who is described by observers as the most conservative U.S. President in half a century, but also as one of the most popular ever. However, the new President, George Bush, described Mr Reagan as a person who had left his name and mark in the history of the United States.

The critics are describing Mr Bush as a most centrist Republican politician. In his short speech after taking the oath of office, Mr Bush emphasized the theme which became some:' 'ng of a trademark in distinguishing his administration trom that of Mr Reagan. He described

communities throughout the United States as a thousand points of light which were willing to help those least fortunate in the richest nation of the world. He indicated that this theme would also dominate his attitude in foreign affairs. He called on the American people to rely less on money and more on goodness and courage to solve contemporary problems.

However, President Bush pointed out certain priorities in his speech which can serve as indicative of the policies the new American Administration would be following. Emphasizing his love for democratic values and a free world, he said that he was becoming president at a time when a world refreshed by freedom seems reborn and the days of dictators are over. The totalitarian era is passing. America would, therefore, work for freedom everywhere. It would stay strong to protect peace and would continue its (?ties) with Moscow, but not without caution.

The most refreshing words that came from the new President were those uttered in relation to U.S. friends. Mr Bush said that Washington would stand by its allies and uphold its words whether it was a treaty or an agreement. America would keep its alliances and friendship strong. In this context, the assuming of office by President Bush is a welcome sign for Pakistan. In the person of Mr Bush, Pakistan finds a new friend.

Both the president of Pakistan, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, and the prime minister, Ms Benazir Bhutto, have sent messages of congratulations to the new U.S. President on his assumption of office. The prime minister and the president expressed the confidence that relations between Pakistan and the United States would grow from strength to strength. These messages reflect the sentiments of goodwill already existing between the United States and Pakistan, who remained good friends over all these years. At times, there had been differences of opinion between the two countries, but on the whole, their traditional friendship had stood the test of time.

All American leaders have realized and always underlined the strategic importance of Pakistan. The role of Pakistan in allowing refuge to millions of Afghan refugees for 8 long years at the cost of its own comfort has been especially appreciated by the American leadership. Similarly, Pakistan has always sincerely thanked for the economic and military assistance that she has received from the United States. As a matter of fact, it is the sincerity of the two countries which has characterized this mutual friendship and that has been actually the element which has kept the two countries close in the face of difficulties.

Keeping the history of the Pakistan-American relationship in view, we can safely predict and hope that under the presidentship of Mr George Bush, the ties between Pakistan and the United States will be further consolidated and the two countries will work together to safeguard freedom and democratic values in the world. The new government in Pakistan, which is a product of democracy, is already set to follow these pursuits quite vigorously.

### Discussion on Restoring 1973 Constitution Urged

*BK2301160189 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 23 Jan 89*

[Text] The government has made a formal offer to the opposition to discuss the eighth constitutional amendment in order to restore the 1973 Constitution to its original form. This was stated by Syed Iftikhar Hussain Gilani, federal law and justice minister, in an interview with the Associated Press of Pakistan [APP] after his second meeting with Islamic Democratic Alliance [IDA] leader Chaudhary Shujaat Hussain today. The law and justice minister described his talks with the IDA leader as positive and said that this reflects the two sides' desire to resolve the issue in the spirit of understanding. He said that he has assured the IDA leader that the government is willing to hold talks on the amendment and also conveyed to him that the prime minister wants the issue to be resolved through constitutional means. The law and justice minister said that the government is ready to examine the issue at any level. Special committees comprising representatives of both sides may also be formed in this regard. He said that it was up to the opposition to decide the modalities of the talks. Syed Iftikhar Hussain Gilani held meetings with the IDA leader last night and this morning on the issue.

Meanwhile, Chaudhary Shujaat Hussain briefed IDA Senators Qazi Hussain Ahmad, Akhundzada Bahrawar Seyeed, and Dr Nur Jahan Panezai on his talks with the law and justice minister. Chaudhary Shujaat Hussain later told APP that the issue will now be discussed at the IDA and Pakistan Muslim League parliamentary meetings to determine their positions.

## Sri Lanka

### JVP Suspected of Killing 2 Election Candidates

*BK2501093989 Hong Kong AFP in English 0858 GMT 25 Jan 89*

[Text] Colombo, Jan 25 (AFP)—Two opposition candidates in next month's parliamentary elections were among at least nine people killed in continuing violence in Sri Lanka, officials here said Wednesday.

Gunmen believed to be from the Janatha Vimukti Peramuna (JVP, or People's Liberation Front) shot dead Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) candidate Ranjith Jayasena at his home in Medirigiriya late Tuesday, police said.

A minor Tamil party candidate, N. Sivagnanam, was gunned down by Tamil militants in northern Jaffna Peninsula early Wednesday, officials said.

They said he was the second Tamil candidate to be killed, while Mr. Jayasena was the fifth SLFP candidate to be assassinated since the February 15 parliamentary election, the first in 11 years, was announced last month.

Another SLFP candidate's house in central Kegalle town was attacked late Tuesday by suspected JVP men who killed two supporters and seriously wounded two more. Police said the candidate escaped unhurt.

Under electoral law, parties can replace candidates killed.

JVP gunmen killed two ruling United National Party (UNP) supporters in north central Mihintale and eastern Polonnaruwa areas Tuesday, officials said.

A policeman was shot dead by JVP activists outside a police station in southern Hakmana village Wednesday, and an attacker also died when police fired back, officials here said.

In another attack, a policeman fired back Wednesday, killing his would-be assassin in Maharagama town, police said, adding that the policeman was also wounded in the incident.

In other developments, suspected JVP men Wednesday exploded a powerful bomb outside a police station in southern Ratnapura town, wounding at least two people and damaging a car, police said.

The JVP has been continuing a violent campaign against the government in a bid to grab power. In 1971, the group led a bloody insurrection which was put down by the then SLFP government with the loss of at least 10,000 lives.

## 38 Killed in Increased Political Violence

*BK2601071889 Hong Kong AFP in English 0706 GMT 26 Jan 89*

[Excerpt] Colombo, Jan 26 (AFP)—At least 38 people, including a leftwing candidate for next month's general election, have been killed in stepped up violence in central and southern Sri Lanka, officials said Thursday [26 January].

"We have a total of 13 people killed in the (central) Kandy District alone last night," a district official in Kandy contacted by telephone said Thursday.

In the island's south, a hot bed of rebel activity, at least 24 people were killed by suspected members of the Sinhalese militant group the Janatha Vimukti Permamuna (JVP or People's Liberation Front) and the group lost one of its fighters in about two dozen incidents Wednesday, officials said.

The latest killings raised the death toll in politically motivated killings since Saturday to nearly 80.

The fresh violence came as the government threatened tough action against "subversive elements" an official euphemism for JVP activists, whom it accused of planning to "disrupt and sabotage" daily life.

"Although the emergency is now not in operation, the security forces and the police are empowered by the Public Security Act to deal firmly with any situation that may arise and afford protection to the people," a Defence Ministry statement said Wednesday. [passage omitted]

## SAARC Observers Examine Presidential Election

*BK2001164789 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1557 GMT 20 Jan 89*

["OANA/pool" item; From Subimal Choudhury]

[Text] Colombo, Jan 20—The SAARC Observer Group for last December's presidential elections in Sri Lanka in its final report today argued that though a voters turnout of 55.32 percent only was a "record low" by Sri Lankan standards, the high level of fear and intimidation through the elections was mainly responsible for keeping voters away.

In many electoral districts, the "majority of voters did not or could not participate in the election", the report said. It however pointed out that the situation was created by threats of militant violence in the north and the south.

The prevalence of the emergency laws in the country also had prevented many political activists from participating in the election, it said.

The observer group however commended the government in allowing the contesting political parties equal access to the electronic media. Regarding the specific complaints about the secrecy and security of the ballot papers during transit, it ruled that "no infringement" had been observed by the team. The team had not also found much evidence of impersonation though it had received a large number of complaints to that effect, the report added.